

INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Paris, Monday, January 3, 1994

No. 34,475

U.S. to Keep East at Bay Over NATO Membership

By Michael R. Gordon

WASHINGTON — The United States plans to stick to a go-slow approach on expanding NATO membership to East European countries despite sharp divisions among American officials and protests from East European leaders, administration officials say.

Little more than a week before a NATO summit meeting in Brussels, all sides acknowledge that the decision whether to let Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and other nations into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is one of the most important in the history of the alliance.

The issue has become even more pressing for East European governments in recent weeks as their fears of resurgent Russian nationalism have been heightened by Vladimir V. Zhirinovskiy's aggressive statements and his party's success in the Russian elections on Dec. 12.

The prevailing view in Washington, reaffirmed since the Russian vote, is that the West should move slowly to avoid aggravating Moscow's traditional fears of encirclement and strengthening Russians opposed to reform.

On the other side are administration officials who believe that democratic gains in Eastern Europe must be consolidated and that those countries must be protected from past predators by inclusion in the alliance.

Providing new details about the debate that embroiled the Clinton administration, officials said that Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher had initially favored expanding NATO's membership to the East.

But he was persuaded to reverse course after the intervention of Strobe Talbott, the journalist-turned-policy maker who was named Mr. Christopher's deputy last week.

On the weekend before a critical cabinet-level meeting in October, Mr. Talbott, who has been ambassador-at-large to the former Soviet republics, typed a memo on his home computer arguing against NATO expansion and sent it to Mr. Christopher.

Within days, Mr. Christopher and Defense Secretary Les Aspin were flying to Europe to explain the change of plan.

Under the go-slow approach, which will be formally presented at the summit meeting on Jan. 10 and 11, the United States and its allies will endorse the principle that NATO's membership should eventually be enlarged.

But NATO will not ease its standards for admitting new members. Instead, East European countries and former Soviet republics are being invited to take part in a program of

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Israelis blockading roads on Sunday to protest against plans to isolate their settlement within the Palestinian-controlled Jericho area as the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks continue.

Let the PLO 'Sweat' Over Peace Talks, Rabin Says

Further Delays Are Seen As the Israelis Question Reliability of Arafat

By Clyde Haberman

JERUSALEM — Israel dug in its heels against the Palestine Liberation Organization on Sunday as Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said he was in no hurry and would let the Palestinians "sweat" before resuming talks on a troop withdrawal and transfer of civil authority in the occupied territories.

Mr. Rabin was also quoted as having questioned the reliability of the PLO and its chairman, Yasser Arafat. He reportedly told cabinet ministers at their weekly meeting that Israel could no longer rely on oral agreements with the Palestinian leadership and would insist that everything be put on paper from now on.

As a result of his remarks, it seemed increasingly doubtful that the Israelis and the Palestinians would resume their negotiations in the next few days, as had been expected. A senior PLO negotiator, Nabil Shaath, said in Cairo that although both sides were ready to talk, "the conditions for going back" were unclear.

Aides to Mr. Rabin insisted that there was no crisis and predicted that the two sides would ultimately clear away the obstacles that caused them to miss a Dec. 13 target date for the start of an Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

"This is like a Middle East bazaar, and we're playing by Middle East rules," said Gad Ben-Ari, a Rabin spokesman. "You have to play it cool and with a lot of patience."

But while the impasse may largely reflect brinkmanship on both sides, it underlines how flimsy mutual trust is despite the heralded September agreement at the White House that supposedly turned Israel and the PLO into partners for peace. It also casts doubt on the entire timetable for an assumption of Palestinian self-rule in the territories.

Israeli leaders, for example, had said repeatedly that the scheduled Dec. 13 start of the pullback from Gaza and Jericho was far less important than the April 13 target for completing it. Later, they have begun to question whether April 13 is reasonable. And that, in turn, throws a shadow over plans for Palestinian elections and a companion spread of self-rule throughout the West Bank by mid-July.

In interviews over the last few days, Mr. Rabin had sounded relaxed about deadlines, saying that time was on Israel's side and that he would take as long as needed to reach a satisfactory agreement. The state-owned radio quoted him as having delivered the same message to his cabinet on Sunday.

"We are not in a rush," he reportedly said. "Let them sweat."

The immediate dispute is whether Israel and the PLO, during talks in Cairo last week, had come to terms on border-crossing checks, the size of the autonomous Jericho district and

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U.S. Envoy Hails China's Progress on Rights

By Patrick E. Tyler

BEIJING — Despite what he calls continuing abuses of human rights in China, the U.S. ambassador here argues that Beijing has made "dramatic" progress in improving the lives of its citizens and that this record should be taken into account when policy toward China is developed in the new year.

According to the ambassador, J. Stapleton Roy, the setbacks in human rights represented by the Tiananmen Square crackdown in 1989 and the wave of repression that followed are being steadily reversed, and the Communist Party has loosened its control over many aspects of Chinese life.

His comments in an interview came in advance of a congressional review this month of China's record on human rights. Before July, President Bill Clinton must decide whether China has made "overall, significant progress" in human rights and thus deserves to have its beneficial trade status renewed.

Mr. Roy, 58, a career diplomat who is scheduled to complete his tour in Beijing next summer, said he could not predict whether China would satisfy the standard of "overall, significant progress."

"I can't answer those questions, because the administration is going to have to define what it views as significant progress," he said.

He acknowledged that there had been important human rights "setbacks" in 1993, including arrests and harsh treatment of political and religious dissidents. But he said the economic and technological revolution promoted by Deng Xiaoping since 1978 had stripped away much of the ideological prison in which the Chinese had lived for three decades.

In an executive order in May, Mr. Clinton said there were seven key areas in which

China had to make "overall, significant progress" before he could renew its trade privileges in July 1994. Among the areas are "releasing and providing an acceptable accounting for Chinese citizens imprisoned or detained for the nonviolent expression of their political and religious beliefs."

Mr. Roy said human-rights abuses were likely to persist for the foreseeable future under the Communist Party and law security apparatus that keeps it in power.

But in nearly two hours of discussion, he argued that the overall economic and social

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5 Southern Mexico Towns Seized by Armed Peasants

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, Mexico — Thousands of armed Indian peasants, calling themselves the Zapatista Army of National Liberation, seized five towns in southern Mexico on Saturday and Sunday, fighting government troops to protest what they said was genocide. As many as a dozen soldiers and policemen and more than 20 Indians were killed.

Late Sunday, the rebels had withdrawn from this city of 80,000 after holding it for 24 hours. The group was still occupying Ocosingo, Altamirano, Las Margaritas and Chenal, and the rebels were threatening to march on Tuxtla Gutierrez, the capital of Chiapas State, near the border with Guatemala.

In a communiqué, the peasants said they had declared war on the government: "The war we are declaring is a last, but not just measure. The dictators have been applying a non-declared genocidal war against our people for many years."

A large group of peasants occupying San Cristobal left the city in trucks early Sunday morning. Before leaving, the peasants painted slogans on walls saying the military base at Rancho Nuevo was one of their destinations. Fighting was later reported near the base.

Witnesses said the peasants held a meeting in the central plaza Saturday night attended by hundreds of cheering people. The rebels reportedly told the crowd that they were fighting for the poor and indigenous peoples of Mexico.

The peasants sacked the town hall and looted a government store. The streets around the tree-shaded central plaza were littered with paper and other items thrown out of the town hall where a fire could be seen smoldering.

San Cristobal's municipal secretary, Sergio Alberto Pastana, said the rebels had also taken over the police headquarters, where about 45 men on duty offered no resistance.

"They believe they are the strongest, and they came to demonstrate that," he said. "They showed the force they have."

In Ocosingo, a town of 30,000, El Tiempo newspaper said the rebels had set fire to the town hall and taken about 30 policemen hostage after four policemen were killed.

The insurgents destroyed three bridges leading into the town, according to witnesses. The rebels claimed to have 5,000 followers in Ocosingo.

A man reached by telephone in Ocosingo said there were still 2,000 to 3,000 rebels

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Armed peasants in the Mexican town of San Cristobal after they took over that town and four others in an anti-government uprising.

Low Oil Prices Force a 20% Cut In Saudi Budget

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MANAMA, Bahrain — Saudi Arabia, pressed by falling oil prices and international criticism that its finances relied too much on oil, has unveiled a balanced 1994 budget that cuts spending by 20 percent.

Economists struggled Sunday to figure out whether weak oil prices and continued pressure to spend would enable the government to meet its ambitious target.

"It's going to be hard to meet this budget with high subsidies, high population growth and low oil prices," an analyst said.

In a speech broadcast nationwide, King Fahd projected spending for 1994 at \$42.6 billion. Spending in 1993 had been projected at \$52.5 billion, but final figures are not available.

The king did not specify where the cuts would be made. Nor did he give any estimate for government income in 1994, and it was not clear whether he expected a deficit.

"The world economic conditions and surplus oil supplies have affected prices and imports from our country," he said, "so the prices dropped."

In a report released over the weekend, the Ministry of Finance and National Economy said that oil revenues represented 75 percent of the national income and that the projected expenditure in 1994 would offset the drop in earnings.

Oil prices have in recent weeks hovered

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Kiosk

Weather Deaths At 10 in France

LAON, France (AP) — A man taking his dog for a walk drowned Sunday in the Oise River, one of several flooded rivers in France.

The drowning in Grasse, 175 kilometers north of Paris, brought the number of weather-related deaths from flooding and from avalanches in the Alps in the last week to at least 10.

The body of Jean-Claude Delmas, 51, was found in a tangle of branches by a helicopter crew sent out after his two Labrador retrievers returned home.

Bridge
Books

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Newstand Prices

Andorra...9.00 FF. Luxembourg...40 L. Fr.
Antilles...11.20 FF. Morocco...12 Dh.
Cameroun...700 CFA. Qatar...8.00 Riels
Cayman...2.00 P. Sudan...11.20 P.
France...8.00 FF. Saudi Arabia...3.00 R.
Greece...40 CFA. Senegal...200 CFA.
Guyana...300 Dr. Tunisia...1,000 Dhs.
Ivory Coast...540 CFA. Turkey...T.L. 12,000.
Jordan...JD U.A.E...8.50 Dh.
Lebanon...US\$ 1.50 U.S. MIL. (Eur.) \$1.10

Skin Color, a Hot Option for Today's Designing Parents

By Eugene Robinson

LONDON — A British fertility clinic's plans to implant an egg from a white donor into a black woman have created a controversy over so-called designer babies and the ethical issues that modern medical technology presents.

Dr. Peter Brinsden, director of the Bourn Hall Clinic near Cambridge, said doctors were likely to go along with the request from an unidentified couple — the man is of mixed race, the woman black — to implant the woman with a donor egg artificially fertilized with her partner's sperm. Since there is a shortage of eggs from black donors, he said, the egg will probably come from a white woman.

"The child is going to be of mixed race, whatever we do," Dr. Brinsden said. "Whether it is more black or more white is irrelevant."

His comments came amid reports that a clinic in Italy had enabled a black woman to give birth to a white baby about six months ago. According to the press reports, the woman, who was infertile because of a tumor, and was married to a white man, asked for an egg from a white donor so her child could escape racial discrimination.

In the last week, questions have been raised about the ages at which some women are undergoing fertilized egg implantations. A 59-year-old British woman, after treatment by Italian doctors, gave birth to twins over Christmas. In Italy, according

to press reports, a 62-year-old woman is now pregnant after implantation of a fertilized egg.

This string of disclosures has prompted soul-searching among British medical authorities and responses from politicians ranging from anger to bafflement.

Dame Jill Knight, who heads a health committee in Parliament, said that to allow a couple to choose the ethnic identity of their child was "plain and unvarnished genetic engineering, and as such must be unacceptable."

But David Blunkett, health spokesman for the opposition Labor Party, was more measured in his response, saying that

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For Americans, It's Good-Bye to Bran Muffins and Hello to Chips

By Molly O'Neill

NEW YORK — Rather than pledging to be perfect and subjecting themselves to an abominous, healthful, aerobically life in 1994, more people seem to be indulging in the sybaritic, choosing the massage table over the stairmaster.

This "pleasure revenge," as one trend-watcher calls it, has been making a slight but steady gain in the last several months, as noted by everyone from pollsters and market-

ers to nutrition experts and health-club executives.

Moreover, this gain is most evident among the affluent, well-educated population that has been at the core of the fitness craze. There is bountiful evidence.

A national survey of 2,073 adults has found that in the last two years people chose high-fat snacks more often than lean ones. Chip consumption rose by 6 percent, and popcorn dropped by 3 percent.

In 1991, respondents in a similar survey reported an average weight loss of 10 pounds

(4.5 kilograms); in 1993, they reported an average gain of 2.1 pounds.

For the first time in 15 years, John C. Norcross, a professor of psychology at the University of Scranton who studies New Year's resolutions, found that neither losing weight nor stopping smoking was the No. 1 New Year's resolution this year. Instead, people are most concerned with managing their personal finances better.

"I am hearing a lot of people give themselves permission not to be perfect," Professor Norcross said.

Businesses that stand to profit from a less ascetic society tend to read these signs as a backlash against the last decade's relentless beating of the good-health drum.

Representatives of the dairy, beef, pork, sugar, snack-food, fast-food and tobacco industries, for instance, view the recent surveys, as well as their own increasing sales, with enthusiasm. "People are starting to loosen up," said Max Green, executive secretary of the Wine and Spirits Guild of America, a trade group in Minneapolis. "The public is no longer overwhelmed by health concerns."

Others, particularly those with a vested interest in health-conscious living, tend to interpret the surveys less as a backlash than as blips in an ever-improving picture of public health.

"There's been a dramatic change toward healthier habits over the last decade," said Mark Bricklin, the executive editor of Prevention magazine. "Major health changes don't happen in a straight line." Manufacturers of low-fat food products and fitness

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Q&A: Contrarian's View of U.S. Economic Recovery

A. Gary Shilling, who runs an economic consultancy and investment firm in Springfield, New Jersey, is one of America's more celebrated bears. With signals set fair for the U.S. economy, he discussed his contrarian views with Lawrence Malkin of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. What is different about this recovery from all other postwar recoveries? A. It is taking place in the midst of a decade-long correction from the 1980s when tremendous debts piled up in every sector and indeed throughout the world, there was excess hiring here and abroad, and a massive real estate boom which left tremendous amounts of excess capacity. Unwinding those excesses is a drag on the whole business cycle, and on top of that we have the unwinding of defense spending and exports pouring out of the newly industrialized countries. All of this is giving us a world of slack

demand and excess supply—a deflationary world which is very different from the upswing of this 50- or 60-year cycle back in the 1960s.

Q. What cycle? A. After World War II, you had a strong upward phase with new technology and the huge rush to the suburbs with a lot of housing and road-building, consumer electronics and appliances.

In the '70s things started to get overdone, and we had an inventory cycle where everybody thought we'd have shortages forever and stocked up on commodities and goods to buy before prices went higher. Everybody ended up with far too much, which led to a sharp recession of the type you hadn't seen since the end of World War I.

In Phase 3, which was the 1980s, the economy really was starting to slip but nobody noticed it because everybody was out enjoying the greed and glitz and borrowing and spending and just having a wild party like the 1920s.

What inevitably follows is the correction, the unwinding phase, and you can variously date that from the 1987 stock market crash, or in the spring of 1989 when the U.S. economy essentially ceased to grow. That started a little later in Europe and Japan, and the whole world now is basically in the same boat. The precedent for this is not in anybody's database. There are no figures going back to the '20s and '30s—so they just don't exist as far as most economists are concerned.

Q. Let's go forward to the shortest of the short term. We've had a good Christmas. What's your outlook for the New Year?

A. We're still in a stop-go economy. The strength in the last three quarters has been fueled by the consumer, who has accounted for more than 100 percent of the growth in gross domestic product. That's fine if the consumer has the where-

withal to do it, but spending is growing more rapidly than income.

Furthermore, there's been this mad rush to go out and buy houses because people think mortgage rates are going to go up. That borrows from the future—it's an effect pre-spending, and it includes all the follow-on effects in terms of home appliances and furniture. In the upper income brackets, people have had their heads in the sand about tax increases, which are retroactive to the start of 1993 for incomes over \$150,000. If those people take only half their tax payments out of spending and the rest out of savings, that will still cut back the overall growth of spending by 25 percent in 1994.

Q. But the new taxes are designed to have the rich keep their money in their business and invest it for the future.

A. What people are doing is investing to get rid of bodies, not to expand capacity. You may put in a computer, but that's to cut costs; it yields profits, not jobs. That's a very different form of productiv-

ity growth from the postwar period when we put in new machinery and a lot of people's jobs were upgraded.

Q. What are the implications for the rest of the world?

A. We are not providing an engine to help the world out of the morass, but they're not helping us either, because the rest of the industrialized world is pretty much in the same boat. Some have been gaining because of the tremendous burst of growth in China. But China is an enigma. It has a stop-go economic policy, it's hard to see who is in charge, and it has inflation problems. We're bullish on China in the long run, but it certainly is stretching it to say they're going to continue this kind of growth and therefore will continue to help their neighboring countries boom. And as they gain market share in the industrialized countries and unemployment fingers, we're going to see protectionist pressures to limit imports.



BRUSSELS CLASH—Belgian policemen struggling with a Turkish demonstrator, part of a crowd protesting a meeting of members of the Kurdish Workers' Party who had marched from Cologne.

Smooth Sailing for Balladur

He Leads France's Presidential Polls as Rivals Dissolve

By Alan Riding
New York Times Service

PARIS — With heavy rains flooding northern France, a cartoon in L'Express last week showed Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, trapped on a roof waiting to be rescued as Prime Minister Edouard Balladur noddily walked away across the water.

Implicit in the cartoon, of course, was that Mr. Balladur is heading for Elysée Palace, while Mr. Chirac, who has failed in two bids for the presidency, is about to be frustrated again in 1995, this time by the man he nominated to be prime minister just nine months ago.

But the cartoon also captures the strange phenomenon of the aloof, soft-spoken 64-year-old prime minister. Although France is in a gloom mood, with its economy in deep recession and unemployment continuing to rise, Mr. Balladur seems unable to do anything wrong in the eyes of many French.

Even as the franc was savaged by speculators and Air France ground crews paralyzed the nation's airports this year, public opinion polls consistently favored Mr. Balladur as the successor to President François Mitterrand, showing him to be running far ahead of aspirants not only from the Socialist opposition but also from his own conservative coalition.

Then, just two weeks ago, Mr. Balladur scored a major victory of his own when he won important concessions for France on agricultural exports and on audiovisual products in global trade liberalization talks. Suddenly, he was seen to be tough as well as reassuring.

His success has largely silenced the Socialists, who have still to recover from their drubbing in the March parliamentary elections. Yet the real loser seems to have been Mr. Chirac, the mayor of Paris, who only nine months ago looked set to reach the presidency, and Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, a former conservative president who lost to Mr. Mitterrand in 1981 and

dreams of returning to Elysée Palace.

Until mid-December, though, Mr. Balladur had always brushed aside questions about the 1995 presidential elections, arguing that the topic should be debated only at the end of 1994. He even insisted that he would need five years, the life of the current conservative-dominated parliament, to fix the economy.

Then, after his victory in the trade talks, he seemed to change his tune. Asked by Le Figaro if he planned a five-year tenure in the Hotel Matignon, the prime minister's office, he replied: "There's no question of that. Five years in Matignon, never! Two years, yes, and after that, we'll see."

It was not exactly a declaration of his candidacy, but Mr. Balladur is a man who picks his words carefully. Two years in Matignon would take him from March 30, 1993, when Mr. Mitterrand named him prime minister on Mr. Chirac's recommendation, to the eve of the May 1995 presidential elections.

Speculation about his intentions was further increased on Dec. 19 when Simone Veil, the social affairs minister, and François Léotard, the defense minister, endorsed a Balladur presidential candidacy.

Supporters of Mr. Chirac were quick to respond. Jean-Louis Debré, a leader of the Gaullist Rally for the Republic party, said Mr. Veil and Mr. Léotard had missed "a good occasion to keep quiet."

Mr. Balladur then chose to backpedal. In an interview with The

Financial Times, which named him Man of the Year for 1993, he was asked about his presidential ambitions.

"I'm not talking about that," he said. "I have never talked about it, and I won't talk about it for the whole of 1994. And I hope that others will not speak about it either."

Yet, with many French newspapers also declaring 1993 to be the Year of Balladur, 1994 seems certain to be the year in which his presidential candidacy will be consolidated or will fall apart.

The focus of the debate will be the Union for France coalition, which has Mr. Chirac and Mr. Giscard as its two leaders and which is committed to naming a single candidate in 1995. The sniping that erupted inside the coalition in December suggested that more serious infighting lies ahead.

In the end, though, what may count most for rank-and-file members of both the Chirac party and the Giscard-led Union for French Democracy is which candidate can best insure a conservative victory. And for now, with Mr. Chirac burdened by the image of a loser and Mr. Giscard often labeled a "has-been," that candidate is clearly Mr. Balladur.

Mr. Balladur has something of an ally in Mr. Mitterrand. Although Mr. Mitterrand is a Socialist, his cohabitation with the conservative prime minister has gone smoothly so far, even helping his own popularity. Further, Mr. Mitterrand has never disguised his dislike for Michel Rocard, the Socialist's likely presidential candidate.

In theory, a key variable must still be whether Mr. Balladur can revive the economy and reduce unemployment. Yet that ignores his mysterious sway over the French. Indeed, in his interview with The Financial Times, even Mr. Balladur sounded puzzled.

"It is paradoxical," he said, "that the French evidently still have a good opinion of me, and yet apparently they believe they are badly governed."

Bonn Gets Fewer Ethnic Germans

At 218,888, Influx From East in '93 Appears to Stabilize

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BONN — Germany accepted 218,888 ethnic Germans from the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in 1993, a slight drop from the 1992 figure of 230,565, the Interior Ministry said Sunday.

As in previous years, most immigrants came from the former Soviet Union, the ministry said. Bonn's 1994 constitution grants citizenship to any ethnic German in Eastern Europe who can prove that he suffered directly or indirectly from World War II because of his German roots.

In 1990, the year of German unification, 400,000 ethnic Germans, mostly from the Soviet Union, Poland and Romania, swamped hastily established camps.

Bonn stemmed the flow by seeking to improve conditions for eth-

nic Germans in the East and by screening potential immigrants more closely. The numbers have since stabilized at less than 300,000.

In another development, about 10 German youths went on a destructive rampage in a home for foreign asylum-seekers in Bavaria on Saturday. And near Hamburg, some 15 neo-Nazis clashed with twice as many Turks after provoking them with anti-foreign slogans outside a big discotheque. Police said two police officers, four youths and a Turk were hurt.

The refugee home attackers, aged 18 to 23, forced their way into the building in Straubing about 2:30 A.M., damaging doors and furniture and pulling a telephone from a wall, the police said. Three were arrested and none of the home's 100 residents was injured.

A Straubing police officer said the German youths had earlier gotten into an argument at a bar with some residents of the home. He offered no further details but said the attackers were not considered neo-Nazis.

A second refugee home, in Eppenshausen, near Darmstadt, was also vandalized during the night. Police said youths threw a bottle through a window and broke the window of a car parked in the yard. None were caught.

Despite appeals from Germany's leaders, attacks on foreigners continue to occur almost daily.

In a speech broadcast Saturday to Germans abroad on the government's Deutsche Welle shortwave network, Chancellor Helmut Kohl urged a rejection of "all forms of national arrogance." (Reuters, AP)

Paris Tries to Quell Critics Of Its Release of Iranians

The Associated Press

PARIS — A French minister said Sunday that Switzerland "understands" France's repatriation of two Iranians wanted in the assassination of an Iranian opposition figure near Geneva.

Alain Lamassoure, France's minister for European affairs, repeated on the Sunday television news program "Hour of Truth" government assertions that the expulsions were "in the national interest."

"We have other Iranians in French prisons who are going to be submitted in French justice," Mr. Lamassoure said. "We don't have

any lessons to learn from anyone" about fighting terrorism.

Mohsen Sharif Eshfahani, 37, and Ahmed Taheri, 32, had been held in French custody since November 1992 awaiting ruling on a request for their extradition to Switzerland for the killing of Kazem Rajavi.

Mr. Rajavi, a brother of Masoud Rajavi, leader of the Baghdad-based Mujahidin Khalq, the main group opposed to Tehran's Islamic revolutionary government, was slain near Geneva in November 1990.

Prime Minister Edouard Balladur's office said last week that the expulsions were made in France's national interest and that there would be no further explanation given.

The expulsions drew a formal protest from Swiss authorities, who said that France had violated European extradition treaties and agreements to combat terrorism.

The Swiss "made statements of regret," we've given them explanations, and they've indicated through an official communication that they understand," Mr. Lamassoure said.

U.S. Warns of Lapses in Air Control

By Martin Tolchin
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — An increasing number of aircraft are flying too close to other planes because of errors made by air traffic controllers, the Federal Aviation Administration has reported.

The required aircraft separation distances were breached 757 times in the 12-month period that ended last October, the agency found, a 5 percent increase in such incidents, called "operational errors," compared with 720 in the preceding 12 months.

"Operational errors" is the FAA's term for mistakes made by air traffic controllers who fail to keep aircraft separated by the required distance, which is, on average, three miles laterally or 1,000 feet vertically; sometimes both buffers are required and sometimes the separation distances are larger.

Some operational errors have been "relatively close," said Bill Jeffers, the FAA's deputy associate administrator for air traffic control. Dangerously close encounters are called near-collisions.

The controllers attribute the increase in such errors to increased air traffic, overburdened airports and overworked controllers. But federal officials say air traffic increased by only 1 percent this year, to about 7 million departures, and they contend that busy airports are adequately staffed by controllers.

Mr. Jeffers attributes the increase to "hu-

man error and communications error" on the part of controllers.

Whatever the reason, FAA officials say there is no cause for alarm. "Just because operational errors may be going up, you can't say that the quality of safety in the system is going down," said Robert Buckhorn, a

'Just because operational errors may be going up, you can't say that the quality of safety in the system is going down.'

An aviation agency spokesman

spokesman for the agency. The number of collisions and near-collisions, he pointed out, has steadily declined.

Fatalities have been attributed to operational errors in the past. Air traffic controllers were held responsible for a February 1991 runway collision between a USAir jetliner at Los Angeles International Airport and a Skywest commuter plane; 46 people were killed.

Two months later, Senator John Heinz of Pennsylvania and six others were killed in a mid-air collision when the senator's chartered plane collided with a helicopter over a Philadelphia suburb. Air traffic controllers had

given permission for the helicopter to fly over the senator's plane to inspect it.

Despite the increase in operational errors, the FAA reports a reduction in the number of near-collisions in the air, to 292 in the 12 months that ended last October. That is down 7 percent from the 315 reported for the year ending October 1991.

Federal officials note that the last fatal accident involving a major airline occurred in March 1992, at LaGuardia airport, but there have been several fatal accidents involving commuter planes and private aircraft.

More controllers are needed, said James C. Morin, general counsel for the National Air Traffic Controller Association of the AFL-CIO. "The FAA says they're fully staffed, but we take issue with that," he said. "We believe they can use a lot more people in a number of busy facilities, including New York, Los Angeles and Chicago."

Last August, the Clinton administration lifted the ban on rehiring the controllers who were dismissed by President Ronald Reagan when they went on strike in 1981.

The FAA contends that there is no shortage of controllers, and it plans to hire 200 to offset attrition. But the controllers' association estimates that 2,000 to 3,000 new hires are needed.

The FAA says it has nearly 18,000 air traffic controllers, of whom 12,000 are at the full-performance level, which means that they can handle any job assigned.

WORLD BRIEFS

Scores Dead in Fighting in Kabul

KABUL (Reuters) — Fierce factional battles raged for the second day in the Afghan capital on Sunday, killing more than 70 people and wounding around 700, officials said.

President Burhanuddin Rabbani's spokesmen said the figures were a conservative estimate of the casualties in the fighting that erupted between Mr. Rabbani's forces and fighters led by General Abdul Rashid Dostum at dawn on New Year's Day. The toll was likely to be much higher because the intensity of rocket and artillery fire was making it difficult for families to take their dead and seriously wounded to hospitals. The fighting was the heaviest for six months.

Presidential jets carried out bombing raids on the ancient Bala Hissar fort to the south of the city, one of the main bases of General Dostum's fighters. Mr. Rabbani issued an appeal to other parties in the fractious coalition Islamic government to join forces with him.

Kohl Cites Bleak Security Situation

BONN (Reuters) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl said in an interview broadcast on Sunday that the Balkan conflicts and the rise of extreme nationalism in Russia showed the need for Germany to maintain a capable defense.

"Anyone who takes a good look around in the world knows that the security situation has not improved," Mr. Kohl told a Berlin radio station.

He acknowledged that the armed forces would have to curb spending as part of efforts to curb a state budget deficit. But he dismissed opposition calls for deep cuts in defense spending as stupid, according to a summary of the interview. "The armed forces will get what they need," he said.

UN Convoys Unimpeded in Bosnia

ZAGREB, Croatia (AP) — Fourteen United Nations relief convoys had surprisingly smooth runs Sunday as they delivered cargoes to hungry and cold residents of Bosnia, UN officials said. The missions ended a two-day New Year's break for UN relief personnel. Earlier aid deliveries have been blocked or delayed by bureaucracy and harassment, and some have come under gunfire.

Five convoys reached Serb-held towns in eastern Bosnia, while two other lines of trucks reached a central Muslim and the western Croatian parts of the southwestern city of Mostar, said Ken Harvey, warehouse manager in Metkovic, southern Croatia, for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Two other convoys for Sarajevo and the central Bosnian town of Zenica were heading to Tomislavgrad, west of Mostar, where they were to spend the night. Five convoys that left Belgrade earlier in the day were heading toward Muslim enclaves in eastern Bosnia.

7 More Killed in Algerian Violence

ALGIERS (AFP) — Gunmen killed seven civilians in separate incidents in an upsurge of violence Friday and Saturday, security service officials said Sunday. At the same time, several schools and colleges hit by arson attacks, the sources said.

Armed groups hit educational establishments across the country, including three colleges and two schools in Blida, a college and a grammar school in Oum El-Bouaghi, a grammar school in Chlef and a college in Ain Defla. The police said about 60 trucks, buses and government vehicles were also the subject of arson attacks.

An Algiers newspaper, Al Moudjahid, reported Sunday that 780 Muslim fundamentalists were still being detained in two desert detention centers.

Pakistan and India Discuss Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (Reuters) — Pakistan said talks with India on the issue of disputed Kashmir began Sunday on a serious note as Islamabad called on New Delhi to end what it calls repression in the Indian-ruled part of the state.

Western diplomats said they expected scant progress in the talks on Sunday and Monday that end an 18-month hiatus in negotiations between the two old enemies, and which for the first time tackle head on the dispute over divided Kashmir.

"The talks have started on a note of seriousness," a Foreign Ministry statement said after the first of four sessions on Sunday morning between the top diplomats of the two countries.

Cambodians Battle Khmer Rouge

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand (AFP) — Cambodian government and Khmer Rouge forces battled throughout the day Sunday, south of the border town of Poipet, exchanging artillery and mortar fire, Thai army officials said.

The fighting appeared to be increasing in intensity, and both sides were bringing up fresh forces, the officials said, adding that they believed there were casualties on both sides. It was the third consecutive day of clashes in the area south of the Cambodian border crossroads of Poipet as Phnom Penh reportedly prepared a major offensive against the Khmer Rouge for the coming week.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Channel Tunnel Fare Reportedly Set

LONDON (AP) — The round-trip fare for taking a car through the English Channel tunnel will range from £160 to £260, The Sunday Times said.

From May to June and October to December a standard round-trip ticket between the tunnel terminals in Calais, France, and Folkestone, England, will sell for about £160 (£240), rising to £260 during high season, the newspaper said. The price will not vary according to the number of passengers in the car. The Sunday Times did not cite the source of its information.

The fares would make the price of using the Channel tunnel only slightly more expensive than crossing by ferries. The tunnel is due to open to passenger service on May 6.

Britain's crown jewels are to be moved from their nuclear-proof bunker in the Tower of London to a new home above ground. The jewels are being transferred because the bunker is too small to cope with the number of visitors, a Tower of London spokesman said. The new home will be a glass air-conditioned display in the Tower's Waterloo Barracks complete with a moving walkway to prevent looting.

Switzerland's internal boundaries have been changed, with the district of Laufon being transferred out of the Bern canton and into the German-speaking half-canton of Basel, officials said. The change means that the Bern canton now has no border with France.

A strike by employees of the Athens private bus system entered its 19th day Sunday with only 650 buses out of 1,700 on city streets, backed up by 400 military buses. Strikers said they would continue their industrial action as long as the government refused to pay compensation for renationalizing Athens transports.

This Week's Holidays

Banking and government offices will be closed or services curtailed in the following countries and their dependencies this week because of national and religious holidays:

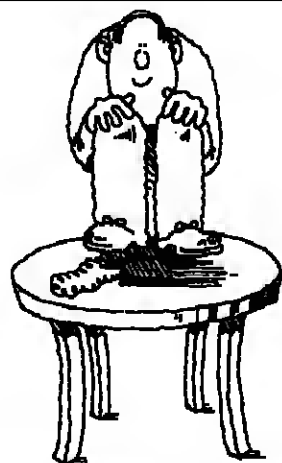
MONDAY: Australia, Botswana, Britain, Burkina Faso, Canada, Gibraltar, Guatemala, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Malawi, New Zealand, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Taiwan, Thailand.

TUESDAY: Burma, New Zealand, Taiwan, Zaire.

THURSDAY: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Finland, Greece, Iraq, Italy, Liechtenstein, Puerto Rico, Spain, Sweden, Uruguay, Vatican City.

FRIDAY: Belarus, Ethiopia, Ukraine. Sources: J.P. Morgan, Reuters.

OVERHEARD



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Colombia	980-16-0001	Greece	00-800-121	Netherlands	06-022-91-22	Turkey	99-8001-177
Cyprus	080-90000	Hungary	00-800-0411	Norway	050-1292	UAE	800-11
Czech Rep	00-42-00012	India	000-127	Peru*	001-190	United Kingdom	0800-89-0222
Denmark	8001-0022	Ireland	1-800-551-077	Poland	01-04-800-222	Uruguay	000-412
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STATESIDE / A DOCTOR'S PROBLEMS

Clinton's Outspoken Surgeon General Is Fighting Off the Political Knives

By Isabel Wilkerson

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Dr. Joycelyn Elders has been U.S. surgeon general only four months and has already attracted more attention, without even trying, than most other members of the Clinton administration.

She caused a stir when she voiced support for the medicinal use of marijuana even before being confirmed. She was applauded for admonishing parents not to buy toy guns for their children.

Last month, she said legalizing drugs could reduce crime and merit further study, an idea that was not particularly new, but words that took on greater significance merely because she had uttered them.

On Dec. 20, her 28-year-old son, Kevin, a white-collar worker at a Johnson & Johnson subsidiary in Little Rock, Arkansas, was arrested and charged with selling

eight grams of an ounce of cocaine to undercover police in July. Kevin and his supporters have called the case a setup to embarrass his mother, noting that the police issued the warrant for his arrest a week after her comments about legalizing drugs.

In interviews, Dr. Elders said that she knew nothing of her son's possible involvement with drugs but that she stood behind him as any mother would. She said her son had not lived with her for two years and was, after all, a grown man.

"I'm very saddened that this has happened, that he was even associated with this," Dr. Elders said. "If he was involved, I'm very saddened he was involved."

Dr. Elders emphatically said that her son's arrest had not influenced her position on drug legalization or her comments about studying the issue. "I have to base what I say on the best scientific knowledge I have available,"

she said. "I can't let my emotions or personal opinions get in the way. If I were to do that, I should not be surgeon general."

"I can't base national policy and national thinking on the basis of my son,"

Kevin Elders, the younger of her two sons, has been released on \$2,500 bond. A preliminary hearing, which Dr. Elders said she and her husband, Oliver, might attend, is scheduled for Feb. 23 in Little Rock.

The news, family and friends said, was devastating to Dr. Elders, a woman who had done virtually everything right: she helped raise seven younger siblings; she was the first in her family to go to college; she became a pediatrician even though she had never seen one when she was growing up, and now she is the nation's first black surgeon general.

A workaholic like the president, Dr. Elders, at her

desk in her gold-braided uniform early each morning, was one of the few top administration officials in town last week, when offices not closed for the holidays were shut for the snow.

She made no excuses for her son and said she and her husband, a retired high school basketball coach, had raised their children the best way they knew how.

"I taught my son to be the best human being I could," Dr. Elders said. "If my son was totally away from all of this, he couldn't have been set up. Anytime you have an informant selling undercover — if my son had not been anywhere around, that would not have happened."

Dr. Elders showed no bitterness or anger. She did not lay blame. But her mother, Halter Jones, did.

"I'm tired of those dang reporters," Mrs. Jones said, standing outside her daughter's former grade school building in Toluete in southwest Arkansas, now serving

as temporary home to Tabernacle Methodist Church. "They kick my baby around so much. She's a good kid. I just hope she stands up to it."

Mrs. Jones recalled that her daughter told her a few days ago, "I look like I'm in the middle of the ocean."

She said she told her daughter: "I don't care how deep that water gets, stand up to them. Don't let them kick you down."

Friends and family members say they fear that conservatives will use Dr. Elders' comment on drugs to distract from her crusade to fight violence and teen-age pregnancy.

"We have to be able to understand the difference between family values and family problems," said her brother, the Reverend Chester Jones, a Methodist minister in Pine Bluff. "When you have a big family, there is always one person in crisis."

U.S. Reported Set To Scrap Embargo On Vietnam Trade

By Thomas W. Lippman

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's senior foreign policy advisers are close to agreement on a recommendation that he end the U.S. embargo on trade with Vietnam, according to senior officials and other sources.

Participants in a high-level meeting just before Christmas, held to assess the results of Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord's mid-December visit to Vietnam, agreed that "there were some good arguments for doing it," a senior administration official said.

But because of the political sensitivity of the issue, they decided to wait at least until after the holidays and "do a temperature-taking of people on the president's team" before making a proposal to the president, the official said.

"It's going to happen," said Representative Gary L. Ackerman, New York Democrat and chairman of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. "It's just a question of timing."

He said the lack of public outcry against previous Clinton administration gestures toward Hanoi showed that it was politically ac-

ceptable to scrap the embargo, probably early this year.

Mr. Lord returned from Vietnam with a favorable report on Hanoi's increased cooperation in the effort to determine the fates of more than 2,200 U.S. servicemen still officially unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. That is the only issue preventing a full reconciliation.

Pressure Urged on MIA's

A majority of Americans would put off normal trade with Vietnam to spur cooperation in resolving the cases of missing servicemen, according to a poll published by The Associated Press.

The idea of establishing normal diplomatic relations with Vietnam appeals to many Americans. The poll found 58 percent in favor, 32 percent opposed and 10 percent not sure.

But 85 percent said they were not satisfied that Vietnam had done enough to account for the American servicemen still missing in action in Southeast Asia.

A majority, 55 percent, said the United States should wait for more cooperation before establishing normal trade with Vietnam, and 40 percent agreed with establishing normal trade now in the hope of encouraging cooperation.

The poll involved telephone interviews with a random sample of 1,100 adults on Dec. 8-12 by ICR Survey Research Group. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3 percentage points.



Mr. Clinton missing a pass in a big way during a football game on the beach in South Carolina.

POLITICAL NOTES

Even His Friends Are Piling On

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina — That body down there at the bottom of the pile, covered by a randomly assorted mass of arms, legs and torso, turned out to belong to the commander in chief.

The Renaissance Weekend, where President Bill Clinton is spending his New Year's holiday, has been described as a rather "touchy-feely" affair. The most literal example — at least of the "touchy" part — came during a football game on the beach when some 30 players on both teams abandoned traditional strategies of offense and defense and instead joined in a giant pile-on atop the leader of the Free World.

Mr. Clinton, hair tousled and clothes covered with sand, came up a minute later roaring with laughter.

By reputation, these New Year's gatherings of some of the nation's highest achievers and their families are about heavy policy and sober personal reflection. When it comes to Mr. Clinton, anyway, the image is a bit of a fraud.

The president this weekend has come across far less as a deep thinker than as a guy goofing off — and thoroughly enjoying it.

There have been three golf games, two runs on the beach and a New Year's Eve party that lasted until the early hours with sing-alongs of "Auld Lang Syne" and Broadway show tunes.

All presidents eventually become linked in the public mind with a distinctive style of vacationing. There were Richard Nixon's solitary walks on the beach and Ronald Reagan's wood-chopping at a California ranch.

Mr. Clinton's preference — as revealed here and on his trip to Martha's Vineyard last summer — is to surround himself with friends, in the style of a college reunion.

Republicans Seek Action on S&L

WASHINGTON — Senator Bob Dole of Kansas, the Republican leader, and the House Republican whip, Newt Gingrich of Georgia, urged Attorney General Janet Reno on Sunday to appoint an independent counsel to investigate any involve-

ment by President Clinton with a failed Arkansas savings and loan and a real-estate venture in the state.

Federal authorities are looking into possible wrongdoing involving Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan, owned by a Clinton friend, James McDougal, and Whitewater Development Corp., owned jointly by Mr. McDougal, his then-wife, Susan, and Mr. Clinton and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, while he was governor of Arkansas.

Questions include whether funds from the now-defunct thrift were diverted to Whitewater or to Mr. Clinton's 1984 gubernatorial campaign.

Appearing on the NBC News program "Meet the Press," Senator Dole accused Ms. Reno of "dragging her feet" on the appointment of an independent counsel and said, "It's high time that she did what she knows she should do."

He said he thought Madison Guaranty and Whitewater could be a "pretty serious issue" for Mr. Clinton, but added that he believed the president would be cleared of any wrongdoing.

Senator Dole, angry at a lengthy inquiry into the Iran-contra affair during the Reagan administration, has led a Republican effort on Capitol Hill to block reinstatement of the post-Watergate law providing for court appointment of independent counsel to investigate wrongdoing by high-level government officials.

Without the law, Senator Dole said Sunday, Ms. Reno could use her own authority as attorney general to appoint an outside counsel to handle the case, which is currently being investigated by career government employees.

Quote/Unquote

President Clinton in his weekly radio address: "I am grateful that our economy is coming back to life; that optimism and direction are back; the deficit is down; interest rates and inflation are down; investments and consumer confidence are up. We have more trade opportunities with NAFTA and with the GATT world trade agreement. But our nation is about more than economics. It's also about our sense of community, the obligations we have to each other. For too long we've been coming apart instead of coming together. In 1993 we began to reverse that, and I'm grateful."

NATO: East Is on Hold

Continued from Page 1

ilitary training and exercises that will allow them to integrate themselves with the alliance without offering formal membership or the security guarantees that come with it.

Reflecting the dominant view within the administration, a senior official described the approach as a "prudent and evolutionary" way to update NATO without alarming the Russians and inviting a divisive debate over adding members.

But critics within the administration deride it as a "Russia only" plan that puts off the question of NATO expansion.

"It is the subordination of our hopes for Central European democracy, where democracy is feasible and likely, to our extravagant hopes for democracy in Russia," said one administration official.

In his memo, Mr. Talbot argued that if NATO was opened, some East European nations, like Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary, would be admitted soon, since they have gone the furthest toward carrying out democratic reforms. But Russia and Ukraine, whose efforts are less advanced, would be left outside for years.

This, he argued, would encourage Russian fears that NATO was committed to a policy of containing Russia power and would also complicate efforts to persuade Ukraine to give up its nuclear arms.

"The argument was that the worst thing to do would be to draw a new line across Europe which would exclude Russia from the security community," said a senior State Department official.

On Oct. 18, the Monday after the memo, Mr. Christopher met with top aides to review both sides of the debate. As a result of Mr. Talbot's arguments, and of concerns over how Congress would view NATO expansion, Mr. Christopher sided with Mr. Talbot's approach, and their view prevailed at a cabinet-level meeting that day.

On Oct. 19, Mr. Christopher and Mr. Aspin flew to Europe to explain the new policy.

To soothe East European feelings and persuade them to go along with the administration's plan for military training and peacekeeping exercises, President Bill Clinton plans to meet in Prague with leaders of Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia after the NATO summit meeting and before going to Moscow.

But some East European nations, particularly Poland, are deeply skeptical. Foreign Minister Andrzej Olechowski of Poland said recently that East European countries might decline to take part in the path to NATO membership was not more clearly mapped out.

"We will say 'no' if we come to the conclusion that this program is just a second Yalta or if it closes the door to NATO membership," Mr. Olechowski said.

Thomas J. Watson, Who Led Rise of IBM, Dies at 79

By Steve Lohr

New York Times Service

Thomas J. Watson Jr., 79, who led IBM and America into the computer age, prompting Fortune magazine to call him "the greatest capitalist who ever lived," died Friday at a hospital in Greenwich, Connecticut. He had suffered a stroke earlier last month.

A lifelong Democrat, who was unusually outspoken on policy issues for a business executive, Mr. Watson embarked on a brief career of public service after he retired as chairman of the International Business Machines Corp. in 1971.

He became an ardent advocate for nuclear arms reduction and served as the U.S. ambassador to Moscow in the Carter administration from 1979 to 1981.

Then Watson was one of the great business leaders of our time, a splendid ambassador to the Soviet Union during a very difficult period, had a marvelous mind," said Cyrus R. Vance, secretary of state during the Carter administration and a former board member of IBM.

A child of privilege, private schools and elite colleges, Mr. Watson was an indifferent student, who once confessed that he spent his years at Brown University mostly "flying airplanes and fooling around," though he was graduated in 1937. But it was in business, especially after a five-year stint in the Army Air Corps in World War II, that Mr. Watson's energy, intelligence and shrewd instincts became apparent.

He joined a company that his father, Thomas J. Watson Sr., had taken over in 1914, when it was still called the Computing Tabulating Recording Co. Under his father, who renamed it IBM, the company became a medium-sized concern making punch-card-

tabulating machinery. His father died in 1936.

Under the younger Watson, IBM became one of the world's biggest corporations and business legends. When Mr. Watson retired in 1971, and for nearly two decades afterward, IBM was regarded worldwide as a symbol of management excellence and technological prowess. IBM's recent troubles — financial losses and huge layoffs, caused by the decline of the big mainframe computers that were the company's traditional strength — were a source of deep regret to Mr. Watson, though he no longer sat on the IBM board.

"They hired my father to make a go of this company in 1914, the year I was born," Mr. Watson said in 1992. "To some degree I've been a part of IBM ever since. When you see something you love have great difficulties, you are very sad about it."

Mr. Watson's real business insight was to recognize the profound change that electronics would mean for calculating everything from census data to corporate balance sheets to market research. Electronics — first as vacuum tubes, then as transistors, and later as integrated circuits — replaced the electromechanical business machines that relied on electric motors, levers and punch cards.

Mr. Watson was a driven manager, routinely working 12 to 14 hours a day, traveling extensively to visit the company's outposts, and driving his subordinates as well. He created the system of internal competition among IBM managers, known as the contention system. Under it, almost anyone was allowed to challenge the decisions of other managers and force them to explain their reasoning.

It worked well during IBM's fast-growth days from the 1950s to 1970s. But it became ossified after Mr. Watson left, and in recent years the contention system has been blamed for bogging down decision-making in layers of corporate bureaucracy.

Irving Paul (Swift) Lazar, 86, 'Wheeler-Dealer' Hollywood Agent

New York Times Service

Irving Paul (Swift) Lazar, 86, the agent for scores of literary and entertainment luminaries, who was variously described as a brilliant wheeler-dealer, a lone-wolf dynamo and a manic egotist, died Thursday at his home in Beverly Hills, California, of kidney failure.

Mr. Lazar dubbed himself the "Prince of Pitch," but his more familiar nickname was Swift. It was given to him by the actor Humphrey Bogart in the early 1950s after Mr. Lazar bet that he could clinch five separate deals for the film star before supper one day, and did.

Mr. Lazar was known to have coaxed, blustered, coddled and even made threats in the course of winning record fees for his clients' books, plays, movie and television scripts and performances. Seldomly stoical, he was known for his elegant, custom-made wardrobe, his overzealous eagerness and the fact that he repeatedly punctuated interviews with business phone calls.

Other clients included Noel Coward, Ira Gershwin, Moss Hart, Lillian Hellman, Ernest Hemingway, John Huston, Alan Jay Lerner, Frederick Loewe, Richard Nixon, Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers and Herman Wouk.

Cesar Romero, a Star of 'Batman,' At 86 After 60-Year Acting Career

SANTA MONICA, California (AP)

Cesar Romero, 86, whose acting career on stage, in movies and television spanned nearly six decades, died here Sunday. The cause of death was a blood clot after severe bronchitis and pneumonia.

The tall, suave actor was often cast as a pigolo or the "other man," but he claimed to have escaped the title of Latin Lover. "When I started in motion pictures in 1934, they said I was going to be the next Valentino," he recalled in 1984. "I was never a leading man, and very seldom did I do a picture where I got the girl. But I was satisfied with the label because I had a Latin name. My background is Cuban, but I'm from New York City. I'm a Latin from Manhattan."

Mr. Romero made his biggest impact as the evil, pan-cracking Joker in the faddish "Batman" series of the 1960s.

Rita Kimerova, 62, a former dissident who served as Czechoslovakia's first ambassador to the United States after the ouster of the Communist government, died Thursday in a Prague hospital. She had recently undergone treatment for leukemia.

Usan Sahni Caglayanli, 85, a former foreign minister of Turkey in the 1960s and '70s, died in Ankara on Thursday, the Anatolian News Agency said.

Pierre-Paul Schweitzer, 81, director of the International Monetary Fund from 1963 to 1973, died Sunday. Mr. Schweitzer was appointed France's Finance Inspector in 1936, then held senior posts in the Finance Ministry and Bank of France before joining the IMF. He lived in Paris and Switzerland.

CHINA: Despite Continuing Abuses, U.S. Ambassador Reports Progress on Human Rights

Continued from Page 1

transformation under way in China should not be ignored.

China now trades with the United States under what is known as "most favored nation" status, which means that it exports face the lowest trade barriers in force when they enter the United States.

The Clinton administration has

had to balance its approach to China between those who call for punitive action over rights violations and those who argue that China must be accommodated because of its importance as a growing market.

In addition, the administration has tried to engage China in trying to persuade North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapons program,

and many argue that a confrontational approach does not work.

In his remarks, Mr. Roy took care to reserve for the White House a full range of policy options should China fail to make further progress in human rights.

But he was far more explicit than his superiors have been in showing a preference for abandoning the

practice of linking of China's trading status to its human rights record, calling the linkage abnormal.

"At the core of our approach," Mr. Roy said, "is not the idea that we can somehow get beyond the human rights factor in our relationship with China."

"Rather, it is a question of what is the most effective way" to press human rights concerns, he said, while conducting normal diplomacy on crucial Asian security issues.

"If you look at the 150 years of modern China's history since the Opium Wars, then you can't avoid the conclusion that the last 15 years are the best 15 years in China's modern history," Mr. Roy said. "And of those 15 years, the last two years are the best in terms of prosperity, individual choice, access to outside sources of information, freedom of movement within the country and stable domestic conditions."

Mr. Roy was referring to social and economic forces that have effectively curtailed party control over where people live, work and go in school and whether they can be admitted to universities or get married.

He argued that a new "diversity" had taken root in Chinese society,

reflected in a willingness to express individual views, an information revolution wrought by satellite television and fax machines and a new government "tolerance" for many forms of criticism. He also cited the beginnings of a legal foundation that might help citizens seek redress and compensation for abuses.

Mr. Roy made clear that in his view, the most effective way to resolve disputes with China was through the stepped-up diplomatic dialogue that began last fall after a review of China policy at the White House and the State Department.

If Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher "were to recommend next May that we should extend China's trading privileges" without conditions, that would not remove human rights from our foreign policy agenda with China," Mr. Roy said.

"We would expect to still continue an active human rights dialogue with the Chinese," he said, "and we would continue to expect to see significant progress on human-rights issues."

He said China's top leaders had taken Mr. Clinton seriously when he had warned that China's favorable trade access to America would be on the line in 1994.

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Herald Tribune

Published every day except Sundays and the Washington Post

Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Europe's Job in 1994

For the European Community, 1994 should be the year when it starts to get its economic house in order. That means, among other things, two hard decisions about the way most of the member countries treat people at work and people without work. Since those decisions seem to point in different directions, Europe needs to understand why they are in fact both parts of the same thing.

The first aim is to begin getting Europe back into shape to compete with the economies of Japan and America — and tomorrow, maybe, with China's. It is necessary to cut the practices that help to make Europe's products more expensive than theirs.

Ton much of the European economy is still inefficiently run by the state. Too many cozy social welfare cushions prop up Europe's workers, whoever employs them. The cushioned economy, perfected in Germany, has been copied by too many of Germany's neighbors. These things are comfortable, but comfort tends to bring a paunch, and paunchy Europe is trailing behind its competitors in the economic race. If Europe's politicians have the honesty to explain this, Europe's people will see why they need to cut their waistline.

The practices of Social Europe, which ease today's working life, are inexorably bringing pain tomorrow. Higher costs mean more expensive products, and more expensive products mean fewer sales. Fewer sales will mean fewer jobs, and longer lines of unemployed, at every stage of the economic cycle. When the workers of 1994 realize that they are buying present comfort at the price of future discomfort — and condemning their children, perhaps, to be laborers in a

third-grade economy — they will start to make Europe more efficient.

The second task facing Europe in 1994 is to be more urgent about the needs of those who are already unemployed — but to be urgent in the right, non-self-destructive way.

The Community's jobless rate has reached 11 percent, nearly twice America's figure and four times Japan's. A shockingly higher proportion of Europe's total consists of people who have been out of work for a long time. It is necessary to do something about this, not just in the name of compassion — although that is where it starts — but also for the sake of a peaceful Europe. Long-term unemployment is one cause of the growing social disorder of the 1990s.

The problem must be tackled, however, in ways that do not make the Community even more of an economic laggard. Caring for the unemployed means spending money — money to give the jobless a living, to train some of them for new sorts of work, perhaps to create temporary jobs like those that helped Franklin Roosevelt's America through the early 1930s. But this expenditure must not grow too large, or it will block the economic recovery that will in the end be the best provider of jobs. The unemployed must be helped, so long as they are genuinely looking for work. If they are not, they cannot be supported at a cost which hurts all Europe.

Both parts of this 1994 agenda rest on the same proposition. The European welfare state has grown too indiscriminate. Those who need care, for whatever reason, should get it; those who can look after themselves should not. Europe can go on being generous if it aims its generosity with more precision.

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

Forget the Great Game

Vladimir Zhirinovskiy may prove to be an evanescent blizzard, but the shudder provoked by his unexpectedly strong showing in Russia's parliamentary vote is justified. He wants to restore the vast empire built by the czars, a Great Russia stretching from Finland to Alaska, and even talks of going to the Dardanelles and the Indian Ocean, the predestined borders of a Fourth Rome. Recent history amply warns against dismissing such talk as the ravings of a buffoon. Mr. Zhirinovskiy's rhetorical vodka may be raw, and home-brewed, but it fills a very old bottle. He is restating the expansionist goals that drove czarist foreign policy, and in doing so he touches deep chords of nostalgia.

From the time of Peter the Great until 1914, Russia's inexorable expansion was a source of anxious wonder to the rest of the world. In those years the czar's empire spread at a rate of 140 square kilometers a day, or about 50,000 square kilometers a year. In the 19th century alone it expanded by a third; czarist conquests in Asia brought the Russian empire from a few thousand to a few hundred kilometers from British India.

What had begun as a military measure to contain Central Asia's Mongol warriors evolved into a sacred mandate to elevate supposedly primitive peoples, provide land for Russian peasants and paint the map with imperial colors, just as rival Europeans were doing. But energies and rubles that might have been invested in Russia vanished into desolate terrain inhabited by hostile peoples. And as czarist armies raced toward India, the alarms sounded in Victorian England.

The result was a protracted secret struggle for mastery of Central Asia known as the "Great Game," amply chronicled in a recent book by Peter Hopkirk. The phrase was made famous by Rudyard Kipling in his novel "Kim," but was devised far earlier by Captain Arthur Conolly, a British operative who was beheaded as a spy in 1842 by the emir of Bokhara. The Game acquired a romantic

aura, especially in the fluent musings of Lord Curzon, who at 38 became viceroy of India in 1898. Its incidents, he wrote, "and what I might describe as its incomparable drama are the possession of a few silent men who may be found in the clubs of London, or Paris, or Berlin, when they are not engaged in tracing lines upon the unknown corners of the earth."

Curzon seized on every Russian word or deed that seemed to confirm his belief that Russia had designs on buffer states like Afghanistan, where Britain fought two wars, or Tibet, which British forces penetrated in 1904 at the viceroy's impetus.

The Game was a prologue to the Cold War, enacted on a huge canvas and propelled by many of the same fears of duplicity and encirclement. On both sides, hawks invigorated against doves and pressed for a "forward strategy" involving armed forays into disputed terrain. Yet in the end, expansion did not save czarism, and Russianizing colonialism, which Stalin continued in the guise of a new ideology, inspired a counter-revolution among captive peoples that helped dissolve the Soviet Union.

All the old empires have vanished, as have the silent men who drew lines on maps. One bitter legacy has been the obsessive suspicion among peoples viewed as pawns in the Great Game. To this day, Iranians look back angrily at the 1907 partition of their country into British and Russian spheres of influence, a diplomatic feat in which Iran had no say. For the Russians, the Game had its tragic epilogue in the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Today's Russian nationalists may dwell on the glamour of conquest and splashes of color on the map. By any sober accounting, however, the average Russian benefited little from imperial vainglory, or the czar might still be on his throne. Nonetheless, it would be foolish to underestimate the political allure of fantasy if Russia's democrats also succumb to its temptations.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Vatican and Israel

Approval of an accord that is to lead to full diplomatic relations between Israel and the Vatican is a notable step forward for the two entities and for the different sorts of religious communities for which they speak. Vatican recognition of Israel — Israel's readiness to recognize the Vatican was never in doubt — should have taken place years if not decades ago. That Pope John Paul II is making the move now will comfort Israelis and many non-Israeli Jews, among others. It will also broaden the Pope's capacity to care for church interests in Jerusalem and to contribute to making peace in the Middle East.

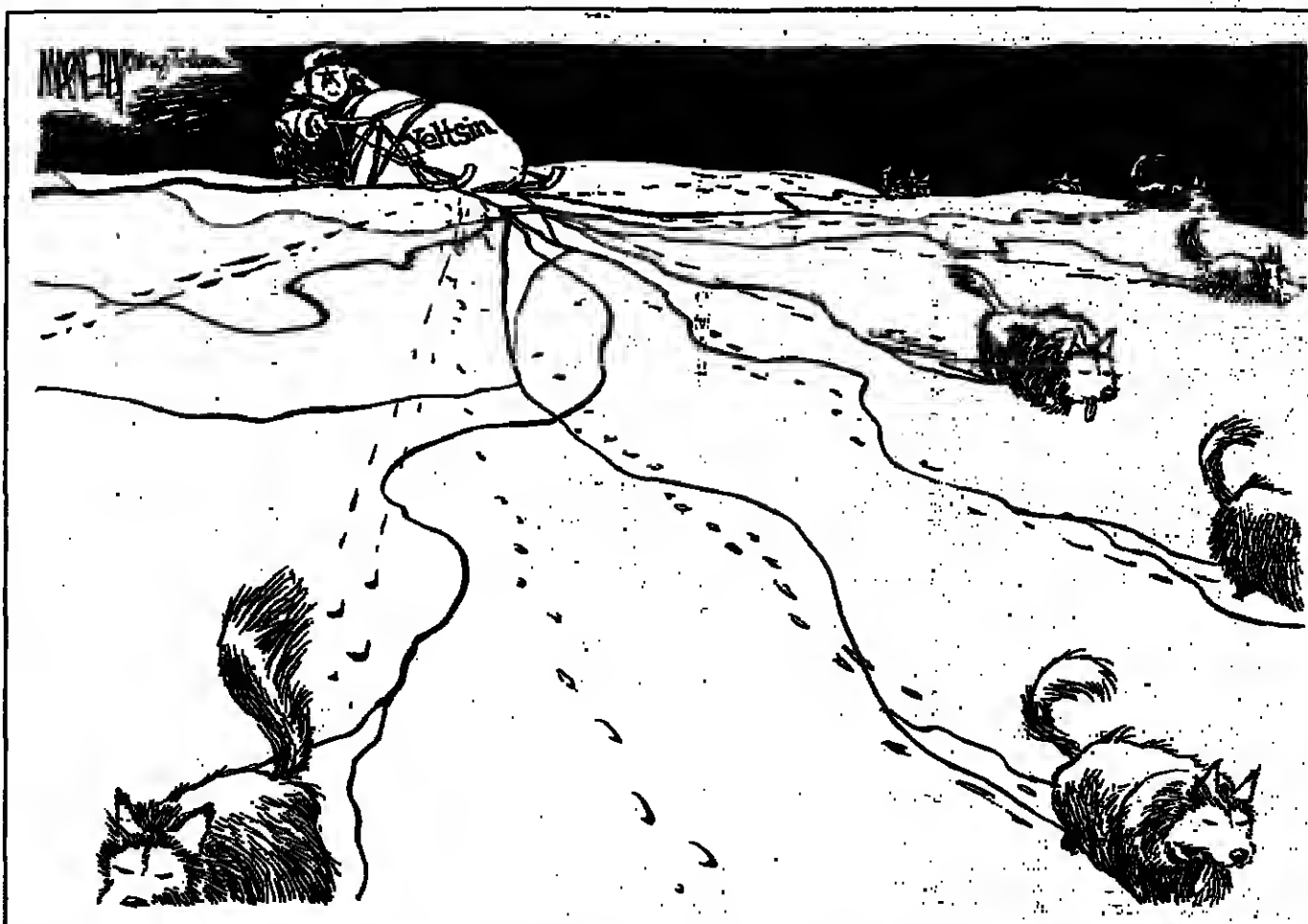
As early as 1904, Theodor Herzl, founder of modern Zionism, explained his interest in a Jewish state in Rome. But Pius X opposed Jews' return as Zionists put it, to the Holy Land on grounds that "Jews have not recognized our Lord." Subsequently the conditioning of recognition on conversion yielded to the more presentable position — but one that the Vatican applied to no other state — that recognition should hinge on achievement of peace. A "humanitarian" concern for Jewish welfare, yes. Political recognition, no. Meanwhile the Vatican was moving

closer to the PLO, a development that at that time revived many Israelis' fears that the church had not yet fully recovered from its historical anti-Semitism.

The Vatican began to break only after the American-sponsored Middle East peace negotiations got under way in Madrid in the fall of 1991. Israelis were able to argue that the world was moving on and that it was time for the Vatican to end its formal ostracism of Israel — a posture that had lent a certain unfortunate color of acceptability to others with a directly hostile intent. At first Pope John Paul kept his counsel, but now, following in the steps of Yasser Arafat, he is bringing the Vatican around.

The Vatican can now reasonably expect a more sympathetic Israeli bearing for its concerns in Jerusalem. The church will also now be able to participate in the working groups of the peace talks dealing with refugees, economic cooperation and the like. Further, recognition will remove the principal roadblock to progress in dialogue between American Catholics and Jews. John Paul is to be commended for this major policy turn.

—THE WASHINGTON POST



Time for Clinton to Tell Europe Where It Stands

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — A year into his administration Bill Clinton visits Europe this month for the first time. He has made Europe wait, and he has made Europe uneasy. His journey will provide clues to this mystery: Has he thrown the Europeans off balance on purpose, to advance a still undisclosed design of American leadership — in which case he is to be commended — or has he created a damaging deficit of confidence across the Atlantic through accident and intention?

A gentleman never insults anyone unintentionally, Oscar Wilde said. And a POTUS (White House acronym for President of the United States) should not make allies nervous and create doubts about fundamental relationships unless something important is to be gained by doing so.

The president and his secretary of state, Warren Christopher, have publicly voiced complaints about and irritation with the Europeans several times during the past year, emphasizing their sense of European decline and weakness. Mr. Christopher especially has made clear his lack of confidence, and perhaps even his lack of interest in Europe, while constantly stressing the growing importance of Asia.

Those comments may have been useful while America was negotiating with the European Community on the trade rules covered by GATT and while America was trying (unsuccessfully) to get Europe to intervene militarily on the side of the Bosnian Muslims in ex-Yugoslavia. But with the trade negotiations concluded and Bosnia not now a subject of division, the journey Mr. Clinton embarks on next week marks a turning point. If there is a coherent Asia-first Clinton strategy that includes belittling the Europeans for good pur-

pose, this trip is the time to make that clear. In one sense that would reassure officials and diplomats in London, Paris, Bonn and Brussels who have misgivings about the lack of clear priorities and definition in Mr. Clinton's foreign policy. Europeans are sufficiently realistic about their place in the world to take a clear new American direction in stride and adjust to it — if they can see what it is.

Mr. Clinton's predecessors used NATO as the primary instrument of American leadership in European political and economic affairs. When he attends the NATO summit in Brussels on Jan. 10, he should demonstrate how he intends to continue that tradition of leadership beyond the Cold War — or sketch his alternative of lessened American responsibilities and authority in Europe.

Remaining silent or vague on this essential point at the summit would set European doubts about Mr. Clinton's decisiveness and vision in concrete. He travels on to France, Moscow and Minsk from Brussels. So the American president at the summit will have to bring the European members of NATO more fully into his plans for handling the multiple crises of the former Soviet Union. It remains unclear how, or even if, he sees America and Europe working together to help entrench democracy and capitalism in Russia and Ukraine.

Mr. Clinton, who hosted a Pacific summit in November and visited Japan in July for the Group of Seven summit, disclaims any mischievous intent or ulterior motive in waiting this long to visit Europe and highlight the trans-Atlantic relationship.

He and Mr. Christopher deny that they are lessening U.S. attention to Europe while thickening America's relations with Asia.

They ritualistically point out that the president will be visiting Europe on four occasions this year: for the NATO summit, the 50th anniversary of the landings in France in June, the Group of Seven summit in Italy in July and a ceremonial summit meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Hungary in the autumn.

But that response is indicative of the problems that plague a relationship that was central to winning the Cold War. They are not likely to be fixed by ceremonial visits and memorable speeches alone, however welcome those will be. What is missing is the day-to-day sense of trust and clear private communications that guided the Atlantic relationship through far more difficult times.

One telling example among others: When Mr. Clinton decided to pull American troops out of Somalia by March 31, key German officials, who had expended large amounts of political capital to get German troops to Somalia, learned of the decision from radio broadcasts.

Mr. Clinton's trip is not a time for fine-tuning such communication problems. They will sort themselves out if he unveils his vision of America's role in Europe and Europe's destiny in the Clinton era. If there is not a vision to be unveiled, that will become apparent on this European journey. It would then be important for Mr. Clinton to make the trip a fence-mending effort to clear up why he and Mr. Christopher have been insulting the Europeans in the worst possible way: unintentionally.

The Washington Post

Engagement in Europe, Partnership With Russia

By Timothy Garton Ash, Michael Mertes and Dominique Moisi

PARIS — With the popular vote for a new constitution, Russia has become a democracy for the first time in history. This is very good news. Yet the relative success of new democrats and old Communists was disturbing.

It is early to draw final conclusions from the Dec. 12 results. What coalition will emerge? How will the president use his new constitutional powers? What is behind the fascist vote? But the key question is: What can the West do to strengthen the democratic camp in Russia and encourage those who, all over the country, have embarked on building a civil society?

Some in the West will feel confirmed in a deep belief that Russia can never become a consolidated democracy, and that it was vain from the outset to try to support Russian democrats. But others, like us, are convinced that this is the time to support Russian democrats.

Russian fascists exploit conspiracy theories much like those which contaminated the political atmosphere in defeated Germany after World War I. But Russia has not been defeated. The end of the Soviet Union was a triumph for the universal values of human and civil rights, democracy and the rule of law.

The election results have intensified the debate over inclusion in NATO of the East-Central European democracies. It has been argued that the West should keep clear of such plans lest they provoke a bitter reaction in Russia and weaken its democratic, pro-Western camp. Yet the uncertainties with regard to Russia's future make the nervousness of its neighbors entirely understandable. In fact, it is Russian democrats themselves who warn us of those uncertainties.

Could the inclusion of East-Central European democracies be misunderstood as an exclusion or even isolation of Russia? No, provided that such an inclusion were combined with a convincing effort toward a special security partnership with Russia. It is Russian democrats who say this most clearly.

On Dec. 10, the 45th anniversary of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev said that Russia aspired to partnership with NATO, not to NATO membership. He also said that it was the East-Central Europeans' sovereign decision

reformed its military, however cooperative its political leaders, would, for the time being, get anything more than a "partnership for peace." There are encouraging signs that NATO has begun to reconsider the issue.

A partnership for peace should be proposed to Russia's democrats, as part of renewed Western support for them. As for the East-Central European states, substantially more should be offered to them, in the form of a contract with NATO — an explicit "engagement" meaning that a proper marriage lies ahead.

This engagement could proceed through three steps. In the first one, East-Central European countries would participate in the political consultation mechanisms as well as in the parliamentary assembly of NATO. In a second step, their forces would participate in NATO peacekeeping and peacekeeping operations, under the aegis of the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. In a third and final step, they would enter the full mutual security guarantee contained in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty.

Many Russian democrats understand that a strengthening of stability and democracy in East-Central Europe is in their interest. This will be all the better understood if accompanied by a clearer commitment from the West to support Russian democrats. Nothing would be more dangerous for the West than a combination of pessimism and passivity.

Timothy Garton Ash is author most recently of "In Europe's Name: Germany and the Divided Continent." Michael Mertes is a senior policy adviser to Chancellor Helmut Kohl, writing here in a personal capacity. Dominique Moisi is deputy director of the Institut Français des Relations Internationales. They contributed this column to the International Herald Tribune.

Tricky Float, Forward and Backward

By Philip Bowring

HONG KONG — China's surprise decision to unify its exchange rate and operate a controlled float of the yuan effective Jan. 1 is being widely seen as a major step on the market reform road. That is true up to a point. But at least as important as Beijing's need to regain some central control over foreign currency earnings at a time when imports are rising fast and capital is leaving the country at least as fast as it is coming in.

The new unified exchange rate, initially set at 8.7 yuan to the dollar, replaces the old official rate of 5.7 and is in line with the swap center rate that prevailed in the past few months. The swap centers were where part (in practice, about three-quarters) of foreign exchange earnings of Chinese enterprises could be exchanged at a freely floating rate and the proceeds used as desired.

A single rate will help move China's trade regime closer to what is needed if it is to be allowed to join GATT. And the new rate will force state enterprises and consumers of certain imported commodities that had been effectively subsidized by the old official rate to adjust their prices. Further, it will provide an additional export incentive for those whose earnings were artificially held down by it.

However, the equally important side of the story is that the swap centers will become redundant as the rate everywhere is determined daily on a central basis.

It is not yet clear to what extent those enterprises which have been

allowed to keep all or part of their foreign exchange earnings will be able to carry on doing so. But clearly, other enterprises which want foreign exchange will have to go to the state banks and justify their requirements, rather than going to one of the swap centers and simply buying at the going rate.

To some extent therefore, the move is a retreat from liberalism, or at least from the decentralization that enabled those enterprises (mostly in the southern and coastal provinces which earn most of China's foreign currency) to do very much what they liked with their earnings. In many cases, this has meant imports of luxury cars or purchase of apartments and offices in Hong Kong, as well as investment in new enterprises.

In other words, the new system is more like what prevailed before swap centers and retention of foreign exchange earnings were permitted. It remains to be seen how well the authorities can make it work without a resurgence of the black market.

It will not be easy for the authorities to maintain a reasonably steady floating rate. Inflation and low real local interest rates have created uncertainty about the yuan's future. The official devaluation will add to inflationary pressures. Foreign exchange reserves are substantial but have been eroding, so there are limits to what the authorities will be able

to do to keep the float from becoming a rout if confidence cracks.

However, if the state banks can regain a grip on export earnings they should be able to slow capital outflow, which is mainly a function of provincial-level enterprises and the private companies that now flourish in parallel with them.

The banks will be able to stem the import flow by the simple administrative expedient of holding up foreign exchange allocation. As with trade policy, liberalization in one direction (lower tariffs) is being partly offset by new controls in others.

The currency moves can be seen as part of a necessary effort of the central government to get much better control over the monetary and banking system, and eventually, too, over taxation. It makes a lot of sense. But it will, despite some short-term benefits for some foreign investors, rein in the autonomy of the fast growing coastal provinces.

The measures underline the conflicting forces at work on economic policy. On the one hand is the push for coherent policies, based on the market but subject to central discipline. On the other is the "growth is good" sloganizing which is popular in the prosperous south but ignores inflation and could turn reform into anarchy. This has already appeared in a paucity selective imposition of commodity price controls.

All this is intimately bound up with the politics of succession. The outcome is as unpredictable as where the float will take the yuan.

International Herald Tribune

A Principle Survives In Bosnia

By Anthony Lewis

BOSTON — The year 1993 left at least one mark on modern history: the principle of the ethnic-religious state was established in Europe. That is what Bosnia means. The inhumanity plucks at us — the daily toll of shells and cold and hunger. But what really matters is the principle.

The Serbs set out to "cleanse" territory that they claimed in Bosnia by the murder and expulsion of non-Serbs. They succeeded. And Western leaders have acquiesced in the result. Indeed, they want the government of Bosnia to accept the division of the country along ethnic-religious lines. It is really religion that identifies the Serbs, Croats and Muslims of former Yugoslavia: Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Muslim. They are all of the same South Slav stock and speak the same language, Serbo-Croatian. But to religion have been added nationalist emotions.

Before the Serbian aggression, Bosnia was a model of a multinational state. Sarajevo, the capital, was a cosmopolitan city where people made little of their religious differences and many families were intermarried.

Sarajevo showed that different people could live together in peace, and that very fact no doubt made it a particular Serbian target. Slobodan Milosevic and the other fascists who lead the Serbs today were, and are, determined to destroy that symbol.

UN military commanders often say that Serbian shelling of Sarajevo has no military usefulness. But that ignores the symbolic point.

And so the shelling has continued over what was to be a Christmas truce; in fact it has been at its most intense in two months. The Serbs hit

A world that now cynically disregards their fate will honor them.

a main electric pylon on Dec. 20, crippling Sarajevo's power supply. They switched off another line, one they control, on Christmas Day.

Serbian leaders have tried to justify their military attacks in Bosnia and Croatia as designed merely to protect Serbs there from hostile governments. But in the recent Serbian electioneering, Mr. Milosevic and his colleagues said openly that the purpose was what everyone else has said all along: to incorporate conquered territories in a Greater Serbia. "We are coming to the end of our triumphant march," the foreign minister, Vladislav Jovanovic, said at a campaign rally.

In a Europe filled with volatile mixtures of peoples, the precedent of what has been done in Bosnia is extremely dangerous. One might have expected the leading European countries and the United States to resist the proposition that a state can define itself in religious, ethnic or racial terms, seize territory and clear it by force of inhabitants who do not meet the definition. But appeasement has been in the saddle.

At the beginning it would have been easy for the West to stop the Serbian aggressors. Even now, a credible threat of Western military action would almost certainly lead the Serbs to stop their bombardment of Sarajevo and their blocking of relief supplies. The Financial Times said recently in London that "The West has ample military power to defeat the aggressors." Yet NATO, which backed in August, threatened air strikes on Serbian positions if the "strangulation" of Sarajevo continued, seems further than ever from taking any action. Instead, the British and French governments have been adding to the pressure on the Muslims by hinting that they may withdraw their troops in the spring if no agreement is reached.

Britain and France want the Muslim-led government of Bosnia to accept a peace plan that would give it about a third of Bosnia's territory, broken into fragments and dependent on the goodwill of Serbs and Croats for survival. The Serbs are demanding that Sarajevo itself be divided, too, thus finally destroying the symbol.

The U.S. government, like Pontius Pilate, is doing its best to wash its hands of the Bosnian tragedy. President Bill Clinton's policy is evidently to do and say nothing on the subject, in the hope that Americans will forget about it. But the consequences of Bosnia will not go away.

The people of Sarajevo and the other Bosnian enclaves are holding out somehow, trying to keep alive their dreams of a country without hate. Someday a world that now cynically disregards their fate will honor them.

The New York Times

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1894: Attempt on Czar

VIENNA — The Czar newspaper, published in Polish, contains accounts of an abortive attempt to poison the Czar, on the occasion of a dinner in honor of the Knights of St. George a week ago. Among the courses was one of fish, and as only half was consumed, the Czar ordered the remainder to be taken to 160 orphans of the St. Nicholas Asylum. The children, as well as the Emperor and some of the guests, were taken ill soon after partaking the dish.

1919: Sinn Fein Revolt

LONDON — More than 100 Sinn Feiners are besieged in Belfast prison. The prisoners complained of the treatment of one of their number in another part of the prison and managed to get the man into the wing which they occupied. They then isolated themselves, destroying the means of access and barricading doors and windows. According to the

Daily News, the prisoners claim that they have sufficient food for several days. They have improvised a band and play seditionary airs, while detachments of soldiers, wearing trench helmets, surround the prison. Measures to put an end to the revolt are likely to be taken to-day [Dec. 31].

1944: Pessimistic Hitler

LONDON — [From our New York edition:] Adolf Hitler, in a grim New Year's message to the German people, today [Dec. 31] offered them only hope of a world that now cynically disregards their fate will honor them. The New York Times

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Directeur de la Publication: Richard D. Simmons

International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France.
Tel.: (1) 46.37.93.00, Fax: Circulation, 46.37.06.51; Advertising, 46.37.52.12.
Editor for Asia: Michael Richardson, 5 Convent Road, Singapore 0511. Tel. (65) 472.7768. Fax: (65) 274-2334
Mgr. Dir. Asia: Rolf D. Krancupf, 50 Glenview Rd., Hong Kong. Tel. 861-0616. Fax: 861-1071
Mgr. Dir. U.K. & Europe: Neil Lane, London WC2. Tel. (071) 836-4802. Fax: (071) 240-2254
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Pres. U.S.: Michael Gurnea, 830 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Tel. (212) 735-9999. Fax: (212) 735-8985
S.A. au capital de 1.300.000 F. RCS Nanterre B 7320712N. Commission Paritaire No. 61337
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BUSINESSWEEK

International Herald Tribune, Monday, January 3, 1994

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CAPITAL MARKETS

With \$15 Billion in Bonds Sold in '93, EIB Still Tops

By Mark Gilbert

LUXEMBOURG — A table in the office of Jean-Claude Bresson, the European Investment Bank's longest-serving departmental head, is littered with plastic chairs, advertising some of the bank's bond issues. "I started collecting them three years ago," Mr. Bresson said, "but I had to give up — there were too many of them."

Now, in 1993, the EIB overtook the World Bank for the first time to become the most active Eurobond issuer in the market. And with some \$15 billion of new bonds sold last year — about \$1 billion more than its nearest competitor, the Italian government — the EIB remains the market's biggest client in 1993.

Mr. Bresson and the rest of the 20-strong borrowing team at the EIB are busier than ever, and likely to get even busier in the future. As the bankrupt industries of Eastern Europe lay off, the European banking bowl, along with recession-hit western European companies, the EIB's lending department has moved into overdrive, and with it the agency's borrowing department.

Mr. Bresson, who is in charge of issues in the U.S., France, Italy and Spanish markets, has been at the bank for 22 years, longer than any of the other borrowing chiefs and twice as long as EIB's treasurer, Philippe Marchal.

Casualty dressed in khaki slacks and a blue blazer, Mr. Bresson strenuously defends the EIB's borrowing strategy. The bank is often accused by bankers and investors of pinching expensive funds into the market, and being more concerned with shaving basis points off its borrowing costs than offering investors bonds they will want to buy.

Mr. Bresson denies the bank is concerned solely with the cost of its money. "It is not only the spread, we want genuine placement," Mr. Bresson insists. He doesn't always accept a new issue proposal from the bank that carries the cheapest price.

If a bank proposes an issue at a yield Mr. Bresson and his colleagues feel is too low for investors, they will double check that the bank making the bid is confident it can find buyers at the indicated pricing.

If the bank convinces the EIB, the issue goes to market. Its performance in the secondary market is closely followed, however, and if the yield climbs, relative to the government bond it was priced against, the next time the same bank wants to lead an issue, "we will remember," Mr. Bresson said.

The EIB was founded under the 1958 Treaty of Rome, which

East European bankruptcy and West European recession mean even more issues.

China's Shifting Wall of Trade

Beijing Lowers Some Import Barriers, Adds Others

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — China lowered some import barriers this weekend to meet Washington's New Year deadline for better market access, but it moved at the same time to set up others, the official press reported over the weekend.

On Saturday, China abolished quotas and import licenses on 283 products, including coffee and civil aircraft, the People's Daily reported. It reduced tariffs for 234 products, including fertilizers, lead and zinc, whose prices would have risen because of the float of its currency, the paper said.

In an October 1992 market access agreement between the United States and China, Beijing agreed to remove three-quarters of its non-tariff trade barriers within two years. Saturday was the first major deadline under this agreement.

But in contrast to these market-opening moves, Beijing also published a list of electronics and machinery products it will continue to protect, using quotas and compu-

sory bidding, the China Daily reported. The government is also set to curb duty-free car imports, it said on Sunday.

Officials told the paper the government would strengthen control over imports of 18 products on the quota list, including cars, motorcycles, video recorders, computers and air conditioners. All these products were already subject to quotas, officials say.

China also published a list of 171 products — including machinery used for textiles production, communications, and shipbuilding — that it will protect by insisting purchases be made using "international procedures" such as quotas and tariffs, according to a joint statement by the State Economic and Trade Commission and the foreign trade ministry.

Excessive imports of some consumer products would hurt the development of the relevant industries in China and hurt the country's industrial adjustment, the China Daily quoted a trade official as saying.

Chinese consumers, flush with cash from the nation's economic boom, have rushed to buy imported goods in recent months. Imports grew 27.8 percent in the first 11 months of 1993 from the same period last year, to reach \$85.95 billion, while exports rose only 6.2 percent, to \$78.25 billion.

Among the tariff cuts announced over the weekend was a reduction for small cars, from 150 percent to 110 percent, and for large cars, from 230 percent to 180 percent.

Despite this, imports of cars are expected to fall because of the effect of the yuan's float, a clampdown on smuggling and a possible end to duty-free car import privileges for foreign-funded firms, the China Daily quoted officials as saying.

The cuts in car tariffs will be on top of reductions effective Dec. 31 for products ranging from computers to gasoline, announced in November. That move reduced China's average tariff rate from 39.9 percent to 36.4 percent. (Bloomberg, AFP)

Unified Yuan Rate Gets Baptized in Fire of Market

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING — The success or failure of China's abolition of official exchange controls will be decided by the currency markets on Monday, foreign venture managers said.

China scrapped its system of dual currency rates on Saturday to let the yuan be traded in line with market forces at 8.7 to the dollar, entailing a devaluation of 50 percent compared with the old official exchange rate of 5.8 yuan.

The move, announced by the official Xinhua news agency, marked the end of four decades of rate-setting by central planners.

The new level was set according to the average dollar price Friday at foreign exchange swap markets around the country, Xinhua quoted a central bank release as saying.

The central bank had announced the move on Wednesday, in a step seen as preparing the way to make the yuan fully and freely convertible, a goal still viewed as some years away, and to bring order into China's con-

fused financial system. Under the measure, a dual system of exchange rates was scrapped and replaced by a unified exchange rate set in line with a managed

Certificate, should continue to be exchanged in banks at the official rate of 5.8 yuan to the dollar even though it is gradually to be withdrawn, according to a decree

They said they hoped the central bank would intervene to keep the yuan stable, as it has over the last three months.

In one positive sign, Beijing's black markets have quoted the yuan at a level of 8.6, a fraction stronger than the floating rate and the same price that has been quoted since the float was announced on Wednesday.

Most brokers had not expected the float to occur before the National Foreign Exchange Center opened later this month. This center is connected to currency markets throughout China.

It is also not clear which banks will be allowed to trade on the market and what will happen to the nation's 100-odd swap markets, in which banks and businesses previously swapped hard currency for yuan, they said.

Companies are supposed to change money at banks under the new system.

Wild swings could aggravate China's gaping trade deficit and inflation, which hit 14.5 percent this year, Western diplomats say. (Bloomberg, AFP)

The move is seen as a step toward preparing the way to make the yuan a fully and freely convertible currency, a goal viewed as years away, and to bring order into a confused financial system.

float against a basket of currencies.

While banks were closed for the New Year holiday, joint venture hotels and shops offered customers vastly different rates, including 8.05 yuan to the dollar in the state-run Friendship Store.

Others ignored a central bank decree banning price rises and leveled 50 percent surcharges for imported products.

China's currency reserved for foreigners, the Foreign Exchange

published in the People's Daily.

This was a great relief for foreign business executives, who held thousands of certificates.

"I think the most important day is Monday because the government said it would give us a rate of 8.7, but in reality it could be a lot more volatile," said Udo Heine, manager of the Palace Hotel.

Traders at China's largest currency market in Shanghai expected lively trading on Monday.

As Greece Heads EC Little Change Seen

By Martin Baker

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE
Greece on Monday is taking over the presidency of the European Community for the next six months, but many EC observers doubt that the re-election of the EC will permit much progress to be made on Greece's favored areas for action: unemployment, movement toward a more complete political and economic union, and defense policies — particularly in regard to Macedonia.

"It will be a difficult six months," said Loukas Tsoulas, professor of Economic Organization at the University of Athens and director of economics at the college of Europe in Bruges, Belgium. "The Greek government is socialist, and will seek discussion of employment matters, even if it is just discussion for the sake of discussion. But what happens really depends on internal political and economic developments in Germany, and the evolution of the business cycle in Europe."

Thomas Varamis, director of the Greek Institute of Defense and Foreign Policy, said, "There's no doubt that Greece would like to see a change in German policy. It is clearly hoping for lower interest rates."

Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu said last week that employment and the enlargement of the Community would be the twin priorities of the Greek presidency. He added that Athens would promote the European Commission's White Paper on jobs and growth, even though Greece itself rejects proposals such as a four-day working week.

Aside from German reluctance to ease up on the fight against inflation, Greece may have difficulty in promoting change on social policies. It is understood that Britain would not appreciate a lengthening of the focus on such issues.

In addition to lobbying for economic conditions to stimulate employment, Mr. Varamis said he regards the primary policy consideration of the Greek government to be the enlargement of the EC.

"Norway, Austria, Sweden and Finland are set to join the EC," he said, "and the traditional neutrality of the last three sets a problem for Greece, where European defense policy is a high priority due to the situation in Macedonia."

Underlying the discussion of the substantive issues, however, are questions marks over the standing of Greece within the EC. Members of the Greek administration committed a serious breach of diplomatic convention last year when Theodoros Pangalos, the Greek minister for European affairs, referred to Germany as "a giant with a child's brain."

For the moment, the diplomatic situation is calm. Greece is a second chance. "That little says is over. It will have no direct impact on policy, it will just affect the atmosphere a little," said one Brussels-based bureaucrat.

"Those remarks were pretty unwise. It was totally unforgivable to disparage a whole people, although calling a government names is a different matter," said Mr. Tsoulas. He cited "weak public finances, a less than wonderful political system, and a civil service that is less than sophisticated, to say the least," as more important reasons for the possible failure of Greek arguments to command respect in European circles.

A Forint-Pincher Thrives

East's Copy King Duplicates U.S. Success

By Henry Copeland

BUDAPEST — Asked about his black Converse All Stars, Paul Panitz, a 46-year-old millionaire, volunteers that they cost \$19 five years ago. Later, he recalls buying an office chair for \$50 at a 1981 auction. And on a given afternoon, he may be found in a copy shop not far from the Danube River, reminding employees that a copy machine uses six times less toner when operated with its lid closed.

"Sometimes Paul is too cheap, but if he weren't cheap we wouldn't be getting ready to open our fourth store in Budapest," says Erno Duda, Mr. Panitz's 25-year-old brother and co-owner of Copy General Hungary.

In a business where margins are paper thin, Paul Panitz's frugality has made him the king of copying in Eastern Europe. Since his first store opened in Budapest in June of 1991, Mr. Panitz has opened three more Copy General shops in Hungary, two shops in Prague and one in Warsaw. In the process, he has surpassed in size the six-store Washington D.C. chain from which he borrowed Copy General's name and initial equipment. Soon, new Copy General shops will open in Budapest, Prague and Pilsen.

Copy machines — once kept under lock and key to prevent them from spawning samizdat, or underground publishing — are humming in Eastern Europe. Demand has been so great that all but one of the Copy Generals have broken even in operating results after four months, compared with an industry average of nine months in the United States, according to Mr. Panitz.

Copy General's Budapest flagship now spins through eight kilometers (five miles) of paper every month, and one of the Prague shops recently completed an order of 2 million pages for a corporate training manual.

But oddly, while Copy General has multitudes of small competitors — almost every stationery

store here sports a desktop copier — its enterprises constitute the only chain of full-service copy shops in Eastern Europe. Copy General's untested position in its category is a measure not only of Mr. Panitz's business acumen, but his willingness to persevere through tribulations that have thwarted others.

Steve Haas, 32, who helped launch Copy General in Poland and the Czech Republic, notes that in the United States "you can pick up a telephone, call an attorney and get incorporated in 24 hours, then have office space leased and furniture brought in another 24 hours." In contrast, says Mr. Haas, "these things we spent months trying to achieve here." Still unable to secure a telephone line for one Budapest store, Copy General will soon install CB radios.

Mr. Panitz came to Budapest in September 1990, looking for something exciting to do with himself and some of the \$1.7 million he had earned from selling Unicorn Graphics, a printing business he started in Washington D.C. in 1971.

After an unsuccessful two-month search for a site for the copy shop he hoped to open, Mr. Panitz tried to negotiate a joint venture with a Hungarian copy firm. This too failed. In another attempt to locate premises for a business, he resorted to walking the streets and putting notes on the windows of vacant stores.

Nearly seven months after his arrival, Mr. Panitz finally found a basement on the southern fringe of the business district. The location was not great and the landlord wanted five years rent, up front, but Mr. Panitz had little choice.

In addition to the advance rent, Mr. Panitz had to pay cash for his first copy machines, bringing his total outlay for the first store to \$380,000. Revenues were \$121,000 for that store's first six months of operations. Now, monthly revenues for all operations have swelled to \$340,000 as customers have lined up to take advantage of the company's long hours and attention to detail. Copy General shops have been so profitable that, with the exception of one \$100,000 loan, each successive store has been financed by established stores.

Federated Acquires Macy Stake

By Reuters

CINCINNATI — Federated Department Stores Inc., owners of Bloomingdale's and Abraham & Straus, said Sunday that it had acquired a stake in R. H. Macy & Co. for \$449.3 million, with the eventual goal of combining the stores into a single chain.

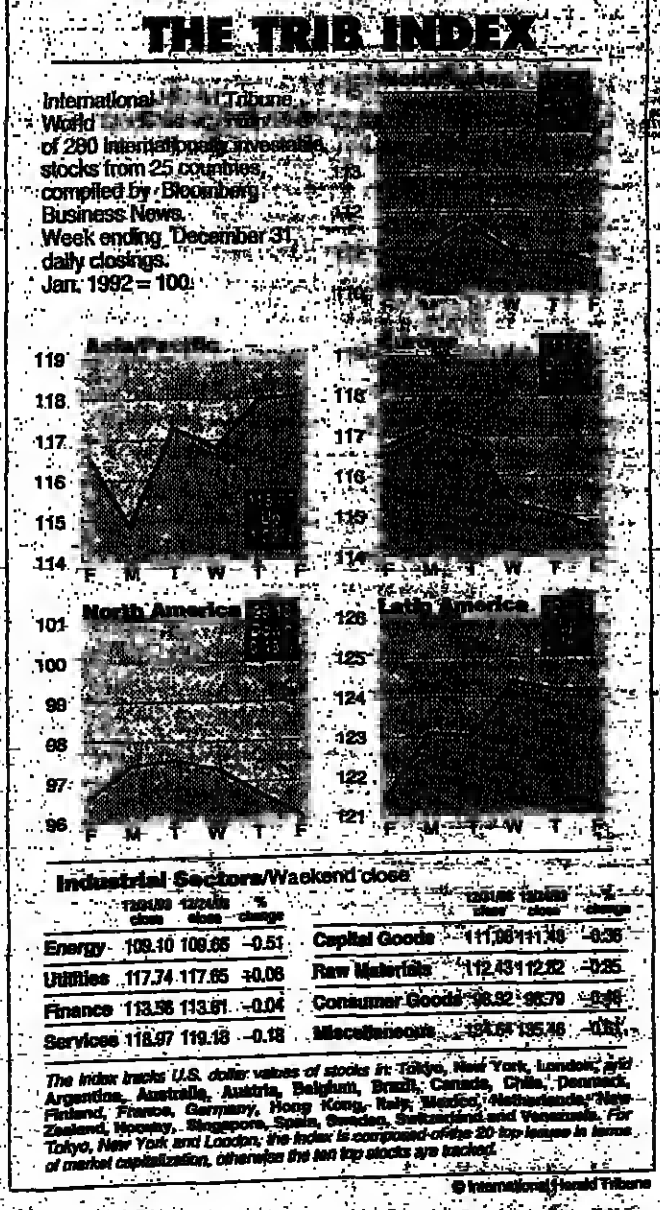
The stake is 50 percent of the claim held by the Prudential Insurance Co. of America in the Chapter 11 reorganization of Macy's.

Federated paid \$109.3 million in cash and the balance is due in three years and bears interest at a floating rate. The transaction also gives Federated an option to acquire the remaining 50 percent of Prudential's secured claim within three years.

Federated said it had acquired half of the Prudential claim with the ultimate objective of working toward a combination of Federated and Macy into a "single nationwide multi-billion-dollar department store operation, with the potential for great enhanced operating efficiencies." Macy could not be reached for comment.

The principal amount of Prudential's secured loan to Macy's was \$832.5 million. The loan bears interest at a rate of 12 percent a year, none of which has been paid since the Macy's Chapter 11 filing in 1992.

Taking into account the accrued interest on the loan since the filing, the actual amount of the Prudential claim against Macy was more than \$1 billion, Federated said.



CURRENCY RATES

Cross Rates

	Unit	Rate
Australian	100	1.3500
British	100	1.6500
Canadian	100	1.3500
French	100	6.5596
German	100	1.9364
Italian	100	2.0048
Japanese	100	163.60
Swiss	100	1.4836
U.S.	100	8.7000

Other Dollar Values

	Unit	Rate
Argentine	100	2.0000
Brazilian	100	2.0000
Chinese	100	8.7000
Indian	100	2.0000
Israeli	100	2.0000
Mexican	100	2.0000
Norwegian	100	2.0000
Portuguese	100	2.0000
Spanish	100	2.0000
South African	100	2.0000
Swedish	100	2.0000
Thai	100	2.0000
U.S.	100	8.7000

Forward Rates

	Unit	Rate
3-month	100	1.3500
6-month	100	1.3500
1-year	100	1.3500

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ASIAN CAPITAL HOLDINGS FUND
20, Boulevard Emmanuel Servais, L-2535 Luxembourg
R.C.B. 43180

NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

The shareholders are hereby convened to the Extraordinary General Meeting to be held in Luxembourg on January 21st, 1994 at 10:00 a.m. with the following agenda:

- Increase of the authorized capital from USD 70,000,000 to USD 90,000,000.

Article 5 §1 of the Articles of Incorporation will be amended accordingly and will have to be read as follows:

"The Corporation has an authorized capital of ninety million United States Dollars (USD 90,000,000.) to consist of eighteen million (18,000,000) authorized shares of a par value of five United States Dollars (USD 5.) per share."

The shareholders are advised that a quorum of 50% is required for the item of the agenda of the Extraordinary General Meeting and that a decision will be taken at the majority of the two-thirds of the shares present or represented at the meeting, each share is entitled to one vote. A shareholder may act at any meeting by proxy.

For the company.

Banque de Gestion Edmond de Rothschild Luxembourg
20, Boulevard Emmanuel Servais, L-2535 Luxembourg

A U.S. Passage to India

'Impressive Market' Lures Big Firms

By John Ward Anderson

Washington Post Service

NEW DELHI — McDonald's, the restaurant chain that has fed the world 95 billion hamburgers, is coming to India, the country where cows are sacred. It would not appear to be a match made in heaven, but officials of the fast-food giant say they are committed to opening fast-food restaurants here within the next two years for the same reason that hundreds of other U.S. businesses are flocking to India: They simply can't resist.

There is an educated, urban middle class that is larger than the population of the entire United States, said Brad Trask, a spokesman for McDonald's Corp. "That's a very impressive market."

Some of the biggest and best-known companies in the United States have reached the same conclusion in the wake of a revolutionary economic reform drive launched two years ago by the government of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.

The prospects of getting an early foothold in newly liberalized India — with the world's fifth-largest economy and a middle class numbering as many as 250 million people — is so enticing that U.S. companies have invested more here in the last year than in the entire previous 45 years of India's independence combined.

International Business Machines Corp., Walt Disney Co., Raytheon Co., AT&T, Morgan Stanley & Co. and Sara Lee Corp. are examples of other U.S. companies that recently have started operations here or announced their intentions to do so in the near future.

Hundreds of other companies, many of them small and medium-sized, also are testing the waters.

"It is, without parallel," said Arun Sharmar, head of Motorola Inc. for Central and South Asia.

Prospects of getting a foothold in the newly liberalized Indian market have attracted major U.S. companies.

There have been more foreign investment proposals this year than in the previous 10 combined.

For a communications company like Motorola, "there are 40 to 50 million middle-class families with the buying power to get a telephone or a pager, and that's a big market to ignore," Mr. Sharmar said. "This is one of the

largest untapped markets that exists today."

The American invasion would have been unthinkable just a few years ago, when India was wedded to self-sufficiency and a Soviet-style economy. In fact, the government of Indira Gandhi, then the prime minister, expelled IBM and Coca-Cola from India in the early 1970s, and the country was identified as an enemy of multinational businesses for years.

The current government is trying to erase those memories with ambitious economic reforms designed to attract foreign capital and unchain the potential of the country's huge labor pool.

In two of the most important reforms affecting U.S. businesses, India raised the share that foreign firms can hold in businesses here to 51 percent and now permits foreign companies to sell their goods using their brand names.

Indian and U.S. companies are eagerly linking in joint ventures that give Indian companies a recognizable brand name, foreign capital, access to advanced

technology and a doorway to international markets. Americans, on the other hand, get access to cheap, English-speaking and often well-educated labor, and they get a partner that knows how India works.

"Something has gotten the attention of American business, and it's the reforms," said a high-ranking U.S. diplomat, noting that U.S. exports to India were up 37 percent this year over last, while imports from India to the United States rose 22 percent, boosting trade between the countries to about \$7 billion a year.

However, given the tremendous challenges India faces, including its repeated failure to live up to its economic potential and the occasional policy flip-flops of its leaders, some analysts think the dream of India becoming an Asian tiger is far-fetched.

"India has a nasty habit of getting to the brink of success, to the threshold, and not making it," said Motorola's Mr. Sharmar. Despite the drawbacks, U.S. companies with a long-term perspective are increasingly willing to take the risk of opening up shop in India.

For McDonald's, the challenges are not just financial, but cultural and religious. Indians, taught from childhood that "the cow is your mother," so reverent the animals that there are 450 million head of cattle roaming the streets and countryside here, according to Kamal Nath, India's environmental minister.

McDonald's is expected to serve chicken burgers. But this does not impress some groups that are trying to keep out the company's golden arches.

Mr. Trask, the company's spokesman, said that while "our statement that we had no intention of selling beef in India cleared up a lot of questions, we'd be naive not to expect something" in the way of a protest.

Mr. Singh, 61, had offered to quit after parliamentary elections last year's securities scam, in which bankers and brokers stole \$1.3 billion in bank funds to play the stock market, strongly criticized his ministry.

In a separate development, an official said the Securities and Exchange Board of India, or SEBI, will be replaced soon, an official said.

S.S. Nandkarni, chairman of the National Stock Exchange, is expected to replace G.V. Ramakrishna as chief of the SEBI, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. No time for the replacement was given.

Bonds Cap Year With a Dive

Robust U.S. Economy Gives Market a Chill

Bloomberg Business News

NEW YORK — U.S. Treasury bonds plunged late last week as investors concluded that signs of a speeding recovery mean yields are heading up next year.

"I've kind of got some concerns about rates," said Robert Davidson, manager of the Van Kampen Merrill U.S. Government Fund.

"This month and last month we've had a preponderance of strong numbers for the economy."

Among the key statistics released last week, the Commerce Department said new-home sales in November surged to an annual rate of 807,000, the highest since April 1986.

The housing report followed the Labor Department's announcement that unemployment claims last week dropped 39,000 to 291,000, the lowest since February 1989.

Such indicators suggested that bond yields could make a run at 7 percent in six months, Mr. Davidson said.

The benchmark 30-year bond plunged on Friday by 1 1/8 points, to close at 98 7/8. The yield was 6.33 percent, up from 6.25 percent, and the highest closing yield since Nov. 22. Yields last rose this much in a day on Nov. 19.

The record low yield is 5.77 percent, set on Oct. 15.

"I think economic growth is going to be strong in the first half of 1994," said Joseph Liro, chief economist at S.G. Warburg & Co. That means bond yields will hit 6.75 percent, and possibly 7 percent, by the end of June, Mr. Liro said.

Mr. Liro is forecasting that the economy gained 285,000 jobs in December, and will gain more than 200,000 in each of the first three months of 1994. The December jobs report is due Jan. 7.

The housing figures are especially good news for the economy, said Michael Strauss, chief economist at Yamaichi International (America).

Home resales and new-home sales in November are running at a combined annual rate of 5.01 million, the fastest rate on record.

"We are still going to get a tremendous stimulus from the housing sector this quarter and next quarter," said Mr. Strauss.

Home sales now mean more spending on appliances and furnishings about six to nine months from now, he added.

The Purchasing Management Association of Chicago said its December index of manufacturing conditions fell to 62.6 from 65.3 in November. The October reading was 57. The index is still well above 50, the threshold that divides expansion from contraction in manufacturing.

"The manufacturing sector is one of the strongest sectors of the economy," Mr. Strauss said.

The three-year note fell 6/32 to 99 18/32, to post a yield of 4.53 percent. The 10-year note fell 1/2 to 102 1/2, to yield 5.79 percent.

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SHORT COVER

Investors Spike Rothmans Merger

KUALA LUMPUR (Reuters)

A spokesman for a major Malaysian shareholder said Sunday that his company had rejected a proposed merger of Rothmans International's Asian operations because it would lead to an outflow of investment from Malaysia.

The shareholder, Permodalan Nasional Bhd., a state investment house, and other major stockholders of Rothmans' Malaysian joint venture spiked the deal at an emergency shareholders' meeting Friday.

In February, the London-based tobacco group announced its plan to fuse its 50 percent-owned subsidiaries in Malaysia and Singapore. "We are very disappointed," said Anthony Jones, Rothmans Malaysia managing director. "We have to consider other options." But, he added, "The deal will be less attractive without Malaysia."

Washington-based MCI expects to invest as much as \$1.5 billion to build long-distance carriers such as MCI and AT&T without having to go through the local phone company. Eventually, MCI's networks could be adapted to local service in direct competition for regional Bell companies and others that hold a monopoly over local phone service.

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Reforming Finance Chief to Stay

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

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M.C. Gupta, secretary-general of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, said the finance minister's continuance was in the "larger interests of the nation."

Jayashankar Prasad, chief of the Confederation of Indian Industry, concurred, saying, "India needs Singh at the helm of affairs at this very crucial midpoint in the reform process."

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The Week Ahead: World Economic Calendar, Jan. 3 - 7

A schedule of this week's economic and financial events, compiled for the International Herald Tribune by Bloomberg Business News.

Asia-Pacific

Jan. 3 Hong Kong October retail sales.

Jan. 4 Tokyo December domestic vehicle sales. Forecast: Down 7.7 percent on year. December foreign-currency reserves.

Jan. 5 Hong Kong Trading in shares in Hang Seng Index.

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Jan. 7 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

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Europe

Jan. 3 Paris Bank of France securities repurchase tender and treasury bill auction.

Jan. 4 London December Purchasing Managers Index. December M1 money supply. Forecast: Up 0.8 percent on year. December 10 percent in year.

Jan. 5 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 6 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 7 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 8 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 9 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 10 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 11 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 12 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 13 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 14 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 15 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 16 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 17 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 18 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 19 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 20 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 21 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 22 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 23 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 24 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 25 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 26 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 27 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 28 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 29 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 30 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

Jan. 31 Frankfurt Bundesbank allocates securities repurchase agreements, about \$30 billion. A total of 110.1 billion Deutsche marks of repos expire.

The Week Ahead: World Economic Calendar, Jan. 3 - 7

A schedule of this week's economic and financial events, compiled for the International Herald Tribune by Bloomberg Business News.

North America

Jan. 3 Washington November construction spending.

Jan. 4 Washington December preliminary GNP. December industrial production. Outlook: Inflation up 0.2 percent.

Jan. 5 Washington December preliminary GNP. December industrial production. Outlook: Inflation up 0.2 percent.

MONDAY SPORTS

SCOREBOARD

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	18	7	.720	—
Orlando	16	12	.571	5 1/2
Miami	12	13	.480	8
Boston	12	17	.414	12
New Jersey	11	16	.406	13
Philadelphia	11	18	.379	15 1/2
Washington	8	20	.286	19 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	10	9	.66
Charlotte	16	12	.57
Cleveland	12	15	.44
Indiana	10	16	.38
Detroit	8	19	.29
Milwaukee	6	20	.28

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	20	8	.714	—
Utah	18	11	.619	2 1/2
San Antonio	18	11	.619	2 1/2
Denver	16	12	.571	4 1/2
Minnesota	12	16	.430	8 1/2
Dallas	8	20	.286	12 1/2

Pacific Division

Seattle	22	3	.880
Phoenix	21	5	.808
Portland	17	11	.607
Golden State	14	13	.519
LA Clippers	11	16	.406
LA Lakers	9	19	.321
Sacramento	8	19	.296

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

New York	26	26	22
W: Ellison 10-11 1-1 21, Chapman 11			
N.Y.: Ewing 11-17 2-4 24, Starks 13			
Rebounds—Washington 37 1Gust			
New York 40 1Oakley 101, Assists—			
ton 26 1Adams 111, New York 28 1E			

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	22	10	.688	—
Utah	20	12	.625	2 1/2
San Antonio	20	12	.625	2 1/2
Denver	18	14	.563	4 1/2
Minnesota	14	18	.438	8 1/2
Dallas	10	22	.313	12 1/2

Pacific Division

Curry 9-18 5-528. Rebounds—Chicago
 131. Charlotte 51 (Hawkins 12).
 Chicago 17 (Kukoc 6), Charlotte 25 (E
 Sacramento 27 24 2
 Detroit 21 33 1
 5: Simmons 5-14 5-16 15. Tisdale 8-1

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

51	[Polynice 13], Assists—Socras			
(Webb 8), Detroit 15	[Elliot], Dums			
San Antonio	20	28	29	
Indiana	19	21	14	
S; Ellis 8-11 1-2-21, Robinson 8-20 5-				
8-12-6 22, I; O, Davis 7-15 1-3 15, Wor				

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	24	12	.667	—
Utah	22	14	.611	2 1/2
San Antonio	22	14	.611	2 1/2
Denver	20	16	.556	4 1/2
Minnesota	16	20	.444	8 1/2
Dallas	12	24	.333	12 1/2

Pacific Division

23 (Brandon S), Milwaukee	28	1	Boston
Houston	23	36	10
Minnesota	19	26	27

H: Thorpe 8-15 4-6 28, Olofinwa 14-4
M: Rider 11-24 7-9 30, Person 7-17 2-2
Bounds—Houston 30 (Thorpe (7), M
Adams—100, 2-1-0, 10-0, 10-0

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Golden State	18	32	33
Denver	21	17	21
G: Webber 8-18 1-2 17, Sprewell 6-7			
O: Ellis 7-13 4-6 18, Abdul-Rauf 9-			
Rebounds—Golden State 59 IWeb			
Denver 58 (Ellis, Mutombo, B.Will			
Assists—Golden State 22 (Sprewell,			

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	26	14	.652	—
Utah	24	16	.600	2 1/2
San Antonio	24	16	.600	2 1/2
Denver	22	18	.556	4 1/2
Minnesota	18	22	.450	8 1/2
Dallas	14	26	.346	12 1/2

Pacific Division

Boston	29	29	24
LA Clippers	26	30	23
B: Parish 8-142-218, Gamble 7-111-2			
6-13-9-21, L.A. Manning 13-26 3-6-28, Ho			
3-7 26, Rebounds—Boston 47 (Parks			
Angeles 49 (Manning 11), Assists—			
(Douglas 11, Los Angeles 31 (Jackson			

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Major College Scores

THURSDAY'S GAMES

EAST

Boston College 85, Long Island U. 57
Boston 62, Boston U. 48

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	28	16	.636	—
Utah	26	18	.591	2 1/2
San Antonio	26	18	.591	2 1/2
Denver	24	20	.545	4 1/2
Minnesota	20	24	.455	8 1/2
Dallas	16	28	.357	12 1/2

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Seattle	30	11	.732	—
Phoenix	25	19	.569	5 1/2
Portland	25	19	.569	5 1/2
Golden State	22	22	.500	9 1/2
LA Clippers	19	25	.432	12 1/2
LA Lakers	17	27	.385	14 1/2
Sacramento	15	29	.344	16 1/2

THURSDAY'S RESULTS



WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	30	18	.625	—
Utah	28	20	.583	2 1/2
San Antonio	28	20	.583	2 1/2
Denver	26	22	.545	4 1/2
Minnesota	22	26	.455	8 1/2
Dallas	18	30	.369	12 1/2

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Seattle	32	13	.710	—
Phoenix	27	21	.563	5 1/2
Portland	27	21	.563	5 1/2
Golden State	24	24	.500	9 1/2
LA Clippers	21	27	.438	12 1/2
LA Lakers	19	29	.396	14 1/2
Sacramento	17	31	.353	16 1/2

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

JUMBLE. THAT SC

By Ma

Unscramble these four jumbles
one letter to each square, to form

1. A. YAP
2. A. YAP

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	32	20	.615	—
Utah	30	22	.577	2 1/2
San Antonio	30	22	.577	2 1/2
Denver	28	24	.538	4 1/2
Minnesota	24	28	.462	8 1/2
Dallas	20	32	.385	12 1/2

Pacific Division

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THURSDAY'S RESULTS

W	L	Pct	GB
New York	32	20	.615
Orlando	30	24	.556
Miami	28	26	.519
Boston	26	28	.481
New Jersey	24	30	.444
Philadelphia	22	32	.408
Washington	20	34	.370

Print answer here:

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 66

Friday's : Jumbos. BLOAT QUEEN
: Answer What they danced on
THE MINUET

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	34	22	.608	—
Utah	32	24	.571	2 1/2
San Antonio	32	24	.571	2 1/2
Denver	30	26	.538	4 1/2
Minnesota	26	30	.464	8 1/2
Dallas	22	34	.393	12 1/2

Pacific Division

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THURSDAY'S RESULTS

W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	34	22	.608	—
Orlando	32	26	.556	2 1/2
Miami	30	28	.519	4 1/2
Boston	28	30	.481	6 1/2
New Jersey	26	32	.448	8 1/2
Philadelphia	24	34	.412	10 1/2
Washington	22	36	.375	12 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	36	24	.600	—
Utah	34	26	.565	2 1/2
San Antonio	34	26	.565	2 1/2
Denver	32	28	.533	4 1/2
Minnesota	28	32	.469	8 1/2
Dallas	24	36	.400	12 1/2

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Seattle	38	19	.667	—
Phoenix	33	27	.550	5 1/2
Portland	33	27	.550	5 1/2
Golden State	30	30	.500	9 1/2
LA Clippers	27	33	.455	12 1/2
LA Lakers	25	35	.417	14 1/2
Sacramento	23	37	.380	16 1/2

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GP	GA
NY Rangers	26	9	3	55	140	97
New Jersey	22	12	4	48	127	104
Philadelphia	20	13	6	46	124	104
Washington	17	17	4	38	126	118
Florida	16	15	6	38	126	104
NY Islanders	15	15	3	33	120	104
Toronto	12	22	5	29	102	127

Central Division

Third Place
Iowa St. 71, Peppardine 64
Great Northern Classic
Championship
Wis.-Green Bay 61, East Carolina 43
Third Place
5 Michigan 77, 5 Washington 71

By Dave Sell

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are under 15 years of age is expected to increase from 1.1 billion to 1.5 billion. The number of people aged 65 and over is expected to increase from 200 million to 400 million. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion.

Hedging Their Bets Through the Stars

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — If even the news pundits are less inclined right now to plunge into predictions for 1994 than to hash over what went so wrong in 1993, no one can blame France's astrologers for hedging with equal skill. Only in good times do people want to read about future calamities and trials.

This year the 34,000 astrologers of France counsel patience and prudence not only for their clients but apparently for themselves. The famous Madame Soleil

MARY BLUME

writes in France-Dimanche that she has "relentlessly studied the charts and palpated the planets to learn their positions and trajectories." And no doubt she has, but with what pawky results. She does say that those born under the sign of Aries the ram will know nothing but love and joy in March and April, but presumably only with other signs since other signs have either vague promises (Taurus: "1994 will be full of surprises") or other concerns (Gemini's March will be rough and the springtime too agitated to give a thought to amorous rams).

Some magazines evade the issue with articles not strictly connected to the stars. "Holiday Test: Are You a Good Host?" asks the cover of *Vous et Votre Avenir*, although by now most readers only want to face that question through an iceberg's veil.

"Astrology and Depression: A Remedy" claims Horo Mag, but the article, after warning about Neptune's effect on the ego, admits that astrology cannot cure depression but only warn of its approach.

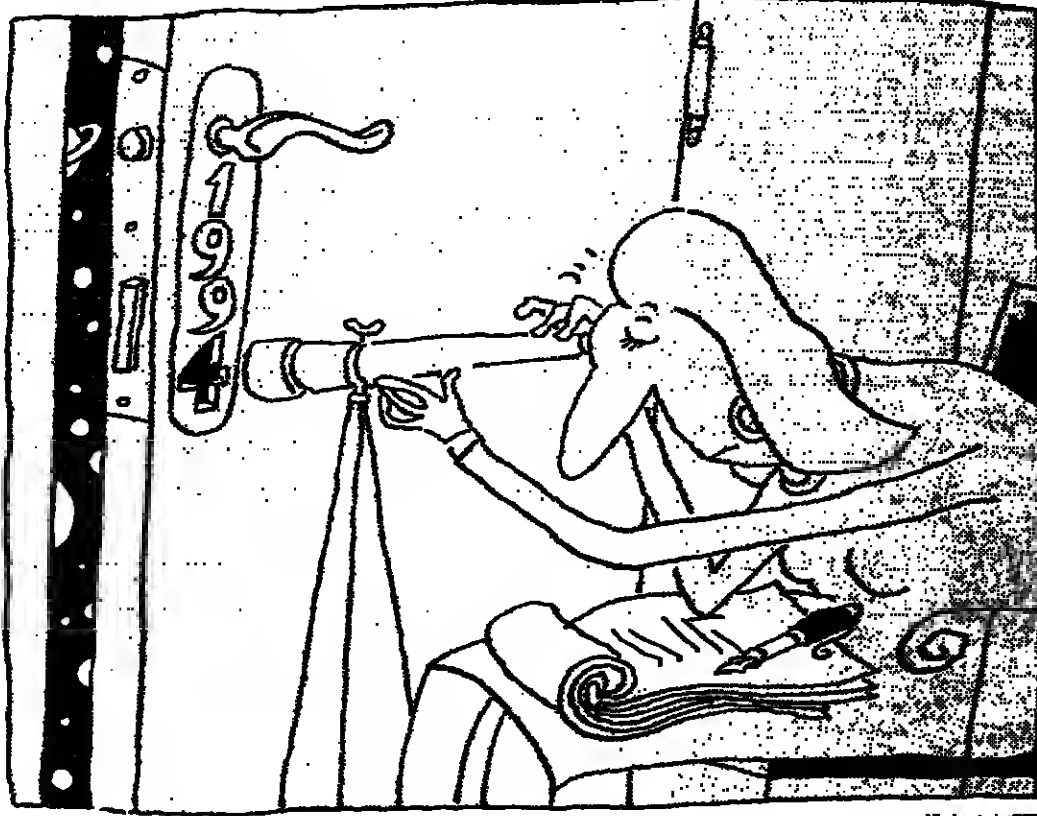
Approach? It's already here on a worldwide scale, with unemployment, warfare, death and destruction at unforeseen levels. No one over the age of 8 can face 1994 with equanimity and no longer can French astrologers comfortably predict disasters in distant lands because CNN will bring them into every living room.

Things are as such a pass that no astrologer in his or her right mind would hazard a prediction on Britain's royal family, although Monaco's princely one continues to tie the planets ever so slightly (Princess Caroline and Vincent Lindon will discreetly join their destinies and Princess Stephanie will have another baby. No news of Prince Albert).

For ordinary people, here is what *Astres* magazine has to say about today, Jan. 3. Aries should stop feeling guilty at work. Taurus will have creative ideas. Cancer the crab wants to come out of its shell. An unexpected sum of money will put Leo in a good mood. Virgo should ease the apron strings. Gemini's life needs a bit of spice and Scorpio should break loose briefly. Sagittarius might have work problems because of instability, while Libra will have them at home. Capricorn should leave the beaten path. Watch out Aquarius, you may catch cold, and be patient with your partner's views. Pisces, even if they don't agree with your own.

Feeble stuff, but who wants to face reality on the first working day of the new year? It's not a year of very lovely planets either. Uranus, formerly called Herschel, is taking over from Neptune and Uranus is considered by some to be distinctly malefic.

Neptune, another baddie, has been in cahoots with Uranus since 1993 and will remain so for about 172 years, says astrologer Dan Martin in *Astres*, so no wonder we all have headaches. One might hope. Mr. Martin wistfully



Nicolas Andrieu/ST

adds, that in 1994 people will take better care of each other, but Jupiter will put the kibosh on that.

What does all this mean to François Mitterrand? Well, writes Bernadette Aubin, he will keep his job and do better in public opinion polls, but few of his colleagues agree. Chris de Buge confides that Helmut Kohl faces problems in the coming German election and adds that Americans will have difficulty in understanding President Clinton's foreign policy. Boris Yeltsin is in for a rough ride, the seers say, and Madame Béarès in *Astres* hedges her bets by predicting unspecified natural catastrophes in unidentified places in late winter. No one sees peace in the former Yugoslavia.

French real estate and the stock market will do better in 1994, says Jean Caro, seeing his country as headed toward the end of a metaphorical tunnel (one of the astrologers is so foolish as to hazard a guess on whether the real tunnel, under the Channel, will open in May as planned).

European astrology has been traced to Mesopotamia. The Greeks only started believing in it when their civilizations were in decline; the practical Romans fell for it utterly.

The reason early Christians disapproved of astrology was because it was regarded as science and science was immoral, the late Louis MacNeice wrote in a study of the subject. By the late 12th century astrology was again acceptable. Martin Luther wrote the preface to a book by a prominent stargazer.

Kepler practiced astrology, so did Galileo although he had little aptitude (a horoscope he drew up predicted long life for his patron who died shortly after receiving it).

In the 18th century, Newton having made the universe into a machine that worked, astrology was not needed but survived at the popular level. In the 19th century, with the swing away from the rationalistic universe, it thrived again.

In our own times, everyone knows astrology is nonsense and everyone knows his or her own birth sign. The Nazis banned astrology, the British had an official government astrologer in World War II. Animals, plants, historical periods and cities have been given astrological signs. The U.S.A. is under Gemini, Portugal is Pisces. Jerusalem and Paris are Virgo, Hamburg Aquarius, London Gemini.

In Paris (Virgo is earthy, mutable, sharp-tongued and keen-eyed) there are more than 6,000 astrologers and they thrive in hard times. Although they need not fear unemployment, something in the orbs, cusps, aspects and times has told them to cut their fees. Maria Gaudin, for example, whose advertisement says the foretold trouble for Michael Jackson, floods in southern France and the deaths of Garbo and Arletty (age 84 and 94, respectively), is offering a 50 percent reduction to clients by correspondence. For 350 francs (about \$60), credit cards accepted, the customer not only gets a personalized chart but a magnetized object to attract good luck throughout 1994.

Mea Culpa: A Clean Slate for '94

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Experts who wallow in the admission of error erode the credibility of their maverickhood. But in a doubt-defying feat of clay, let me rid my conscience of the most egregious of my last year's language puffs, in both my language columns and my political essays, so as to start the year with a clean slate. (Thereby to be better than so as to, but for some reason thereby has acquired an overly formal connotation, like *albeit*.)

When President Clinton spoke of "people that are different than we are," I popped him lightly on the use of *different* than, which is not as strong a differentiation as *different from*, but then went on to suggest fixing the end with "people who are different from ourselves."

Lyle W. Sparks of Chicago thought that was an overuse use of the reflexive *ourselves*. "Examples of the proper use of the emphatic or reflexive *ourselves*," he writes, "are 'We ourselves have committed grammatical error' and 'For the post of language guru, we nominate ourselves.'"

To be correct and direct, the president and I should use "people who are different from us."

Whatever happened to *Burma-Shave*? I asked in one of my nostalgic moods. "For that matter, whatever happened to *Burma*?" George Meredith of Red Bank, New Jersey, wondered. "Whatever the difference between *whatever* and *what* ever, what ever happens to people who know the difference? All gone to Myanmar?" That's the new name of Burma, adopted in June 1989. I just checked with the spokesman for Myanmar, who says, "Burma was the name given to the country by British colonialists in 1885. The Burmese make up 85 percent of the population, but there are 135 nationalities in our country, and the name Myanmar represents everyone, not just the Burmese."

On whatever, both Merriam-Webster and Webster's New World Dictionary report that one word fits all, but it seems to me that Meredith has a point: when used in a question, the interrogative pronoun and intensifier should be two words, *what ever*. The meaning is wholly different from the adjective *whatever*, as in "whatever name the dictator of Burma prefers"; whatever the dictionary says, use the single word in its additional sense of "no matter what." (What ever happened to sequential signs along the road that advertised Burma-Shave in doggerel? The shaving cream is gone, the signs are gone, and the roads have been replaced by interstate highways, freeways, whatever.)

Back to more obvious mistakes. "Only by building a floating majority," I wrote with political prescience, could the president "build the momentum..." to overcome his *beige noir*, gridlock. To which Ior Seewalk, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine History and Literature Emeritus at Harvard, responded, "Keep an eye on your proofreader."

This had me scratching my head until an "Oh, no!" came in from Evangelina Bruce of Washington with "How could you make the *beige* masculine?" The black beast is *la beige noire*. (Proofreaders expecting arcane wordplay in my copy occasionally say to themselves, "This is so obviously wrong that it must be one of his verbal stunts, and I'd better leave it as is so nobody can accuse me of not getting the joke.")

I'm good at history, though. In comparing Boris Yeltsin's relentless pressure on a defiant parliament to Oliver Cromwell's blast at legislators unwilling to commit regicide — "It is not fit that you should sit here any longer!" — I noted, "In the ensuing 'Pride's Purge,' a Cromwellian colonel arrested 96 reluctant legislators, leaving a rump Parliament to hang the King."

Wrongly executed. "When Charles I walked out one of the oversized windows," corrected Tony Brunton of Bay Shore, New York, "onto a hastily erected walkway and platform — which overlooked Whitehall — it was to lose his head rather than hang." Royalty gets decapitated, not hanged.

For a reason having only to do with fumbling fingers, I predicted a great future for "PC-ROM" recently. "For an upgrade of your personal computer savvy," instructed Andy Glass, Washington bureau chief and columnist for *Cox* newspapers, "note that PC-ROM is an acronym for 'Personal Computer Read-Only Memory.' Most often, these chips are cited as the machine's BIOS, which stands for 'Basic Input-Output System.' The BIOS is the gizmo that sets things up when you hit the 'On' switch."

"Since PC-ROM has been around for more than a decade, coas in computerdom," Glass continues in his snazzy Ultrashadow font, "I am sure CD-ROM is what you really had in mind when you referred to the new world of PC-ROM in noting the growing interest in multimedia systems. CD-ROM stands for 'Compact Disk Read-Only Memory.'"

Yeah, and "read only" means you can't write to the disk, at least not this week. I am correcting this error lest my works be immortalized on CD-ROM and confuse some android reading it in the future.

In a piece on *factoids*, bits of conjecture or misinformation masquerading as facts, I described Spock of the infinitive-splitting television series "Star Trek" as an android, an automaton who was similar to a human but not the same. This was by way of giving the world an old, a combining form to denote spurious likeness.

"The 'Star Trek' character you cited, as Spock's fans know," wrote Bruce Goldstein of Richmond, "is half human and half Vulcan — but all natural — making him a *humanoid*, something like but not quite a human. Commander Data, from 'Star Trek: The Next Generation,' is an android. So when you wrote, 'An android is very like a human being but is an automaton,' you published an *analogoid* — something that is like but not quite a real analog."

Actually, in my filed copy I referred to "Dr. Spock," when I meant "Mr. Spock," which would have drawn angry letters from former children accustomed to feeding on demand. A proofreader was gutsy enough to boldly go where no proofreader had ever gone before, saving me on the honorific before the mistake could hit print; he assumed I knew this — no parent or coach potato could possibly confuse Dr. Spock with Spock — but was shyly testing him.

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WEATHER

Forecast for Tuesday through Thursday, as provided by Accu-Weather.

Europe

	Today	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
	CF	CF	CF	CF	CF	CF	CF
Algeria	16/61	11/52	sh	12/56	9/48	pc	
Amsterdam	54/53	49/41	sh	50/51	37/26	sh	
Athens	57/27	22/28	sh	30/27	23/27	sh	
Berlin	16/53	6/43	sh	10/51	5/43	sh	
Birmingham	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Bombay	30/71	12/51	sh	10/51	4/43	sh	
Buenos Aires	54/51	13/41	sh	4/37	3/29	sh	
Cairo	6/43	3/27	sh	6/43	1/24	sh	
Calcutta	32/75	12/51	sh	30/71	5/43	sh	
Canton	20/51	11/41	sh	30/27	23/27	sh	
Chengdu	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Colon	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Dublin	7/44	2/34	sh	7/44	2/34	sh	
Edinburgh	7/44	2/34	sh	7/44	2/34	sh	
Hankow	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Hong Kong	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Houston	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
London	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Los Angeles	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Madrid	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Moscow	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Mumbai	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Osaka	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Paris	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Perth	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Port of Spain	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Rangoon	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Rio de Janeiro	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Rome	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Sao Paulo	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Seoul	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Shanghai	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Singapore	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Sydney	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Taipei	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Tokyo	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Yokohama	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	

North America

	Today	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
	CF	CF	CF	CF	CF	CF	CF
Alaska	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Arizona	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
California	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Canada	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Colorado	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Connecticut	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Delaware	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
District of Columbia	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Florida	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Georgia	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Hawaii	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Idaho	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Illinois	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Indiana	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Iowa	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Kansas	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Kentucky	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Louisiana	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Maine	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Maryland	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Massachusetts	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Michigan	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Minnesota	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Mississippi	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Missouri	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Montana	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Nebraska	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Nevada	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
New Hampshire	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
New Jersey	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
New Mexico	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
New York	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
North Carolina	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
North Dakota	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Ohio	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Oklahoma	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Oregon	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Pennsylvania	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Rhode Island	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
South Carolina	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
South Dakota	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Tennessee	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Texas	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Utah	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Vermont	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Virginia	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Washington	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
West Virginia	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Wisconsin	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	
Wyoming	16/51	6/41	sh	10/50	4/42	sh	

Asia

	Today	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
	CF	CF	CF	CF	CF	CF	CF
Bangkok	19/69	14/57	sh	12/58	8/50	sh	
Beijing	9/97	10/115	sh	2/95	7/93	sh	
Hong Kong	19/69	14/57	sh	12/58	8/50	sh	
London	16/51	11/40	sh	10/48	7/40	sh	
New Delhi	24/75	11/52	sh	24/75	10/50	sh	
Osaka	16/51	11/40	sh	10/48	7/40	sh	
Shanghai	18/68	1/34	sh	11/52	7/35	sh	
Singapore	16/51	11/40	sh	10/48	7/40	sh	
Taipei	24/75	13/54	sh	24/75	13/55	sh	
Tokyo	11/52	5/41	sh	11/52	7/41	sh	

Africa							
Algeria	17/52	12/53	sh	16/49	10/50	sh	
Cairo	16/51	16/81	sh	16/51	10/50	sh	
Casablanca	24/98	9/46	sh	17/82	7/44	sh	
Conakry	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Luanda	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Lagos	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Nairobi	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Rabat	17/52	10/50	sh	16/51	10/50	sh	
Tunis	17/52	9/49	sh	16/51	10/50	sh	

North America							
Anchorage	4/27	1/19	sh	4/27	1/56	sh	
Atlanta	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Boston	1/31	7/21	sh	1/35	4/41	sh	
Chicago	4/23	7/20	sh	4/22	10/15	sh	
Denver	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Detroit	4/24	4/18	sh	3/27	11/13	sh	
Honolulu	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Houston	17/52	10/51	sh	17/51	7/44	sh	
Los Angeles	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Memphis	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Miami	17/52	14/57	sh	17/51	10/51	sh	
Minneapolis	4/19	1/18	sh	4/20	12/16	sh	
New York	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Las Vegas	27/80	9/20	sh	26/77	1/50	sh	
Phoenix	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Pittsburgh	20/73	8/28	sh	19/67	7/44	sh	
Portland	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Seattle	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
San Francisco	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	
Washington	16/51	11/40	sh	16/51	7/40	sh	